

Records of the General Conference

Twenty-ninth Session

Paris, 21 October to 12 November 1997

Volume 1

Resolutions

United Nations Educational,
Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Note on the Records of the General Conference

The Records of the 29th session of the General Conference are printed in three volumes:

The present volume, containing the resolutions adopted by the General Conference and the list of officers of the General Conference and of the Commissions and Committees (Volume 1);

The volume *Reports*, which contains the reports of Commissions I to V, the Administrative Commission and the Legal Committee (Volume 2);

The volume of *Proceedings*, which contains the verbatim records of plenary meetings, the list of participants and the list of documents (Volume 3).

Note on the numbering of resolutions

The numbering of the resolutions has been changed in order to distinguish resolutions concerning the organization of the session or elections (numbered from 01 to 023) from those to be implemented during the 1998-1999 biennium by the Secretariat and/or Member States (numbered from 1 to 93). It is recommended that references to resolutions be made in one of the following forms:

In the body of the text:

‘Resolution 31 adopted by the General Conference at its 29th session’; or ‘29 C/Resolution 31’.

In passing reference:

‘(29 C/Resolution 31)’ or ‘(29 C/Res. 31)’.

Published in 1998

*by the United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural Organization
7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 PARIS 07 SP*

Composed and printed in the workshops of UNESCO, Paris

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I Organization of the session, activities of the Executive Board and tribute to its Chairperson

01 Credentials

At its 1st plenary meeting, on 21 October 1997, the General Conference, in accordance with Rules 25 and 27 of its Rules of Procedure, set up a Credentials Committee for the 29th session consisting of representatives of the following Member States: Algeria, Colombia, Czech Republic, Germany, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Ukraine and the United Republic of Tanzania.

On the report of the Credentials Committee or on the reports of the Chairperson specially authorized by the Committee, the General Conference recognized as valid the credentials of:

(a) The delegations of the following Member States:

Afghanistan	Cape Verde	Estonia
Albania	Central African Republic	Ethiopia
Algeria	Chad	Fiji
Andorra	Chile	Finland
Angola	China	France
Argentina	Colombia	Gabon
Armenia	Comoros	Gambia
Australia	Congo	Georgia
Austria	Cook Islands	Germany
Azerbaijan	Costa Rica	Ghana
Bahamas	Côte d'Ivoire	Greece
Bahrain	Croatia	Grenada
Bangladesh	Cuba	Guatemala
Barbados	Cyprus	Guinea
Belarus	Czech Republic	Guinea-Bissau
Belgium	Democratic People's	Guyana
Belize	Republic of Korea	Haiti
Benin	Democratic Republic	Honduras
Bolivia	of the Congo	Hungary
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Denmark	Iceland
Botswana	Djibouti	India
Brazil	Dominica	Indonesia
Bulgaria	Dominican Republic	Iran, Islamic Republic of
Burkina Faso	Ecuador	Iraq
Burundi	Egypt	Ireland
Cambodia	El Salvador	Israel
Cameroon	Equatorial Guinea	Italy
Canada	Eritrea	Jamaica

Japan	Nicaragua	Spain
Jordan	Niger	Sri Lanka
Kazakhstan	Nigeria	Sudan
Kenya	Niue	Suriname
Kiribati	Norway	Swaziland
Kuwait	Oman	Sweden
Kyrgyzstan	Pakistan	Switzerland
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Panama	Syrian Arab Republic
Latvia	Papua New Guinea	Tajikistan
Lebanon	Paraguay	Thailand
Lesotho	Peru	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Liberia	Philippines	Togo
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Poland	Tonga
Lithuania	Portugal	Trinidad and Tobago
Luxembourg	Qatar	Tunisia
Madagascar	Republic of Korea	Turkey
Malawi	Republic of Moldova	Turkmenistan
Malaysia	Romania	Tuvalu
Maldives	Russian Federation	Uganda
Mali	Rwanda	Ukraine
Malta	Saint Kitts and Nevis	United Arab Emirates
Mauritania	Saint Lucia	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Mauritius	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	United Republic of Tanzania
Mexico	Samoa	Uruguay
Monaco	San Marino	Uzbekistan
Mongolia	Sao Tome and Principe	Vanuatu
Morocco	Saudi Arabia	Venezuela
Mozambique	Senegal	Viet Nam
Myanmar	Seychelles	Yemen
Namibia	Slovakia	Zambia
Nauru	Slovenia	Zimbabwe
Nepal	Solomon Islands	
Netherlands	Somalia	
New Zealand	South Africa	

(b) The delegations of the following Associate Members:

Aruba
British Virgin Islands
Macao
Netherlands Antilles

(c) The observers from the following States:

Holy See
United States of America

02 Communications received from Member States invoking the provisions of Article IV.C, paragraph 8(c), of the Constitution¹

The General Conference,

Having considered the communications received from Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Gambia, Georgia, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Republic of Moldova, Sao Tome and Principe, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Vanuatu, Yemen and Zambia invoking the terms of Article IV.C, paragraph 8(c), of the Constitution in order to obtain permission to take part in the voting at its 29th session,

Recalling the constitutional obligation of Member States to pay their contributions fully and on time, *Taking into account* the history of payment of contributions in preceding years and previous requests for voting rights in the case of each of these Member States, as well as the measures proposed by them to eliminate their arrears,

Noting that Bolivia, Central African Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Solomon Islands have paid the amounts required for voting rights in conformity with Article IV.C, paragraph 8(b), of the Constitution and that the Central African Republic has also paid the amount required for voting rights in conformity with Rule 79 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference,

1. *Considers* that the failure of Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Gambia, Georgia, Grenada, Guinea, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Republic of Moldova, Sao Tome and Principe, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Vanuatu, Yemen and Zambia to pay contributions due for the current year and the immediately preceding calendar year and/or instalments on payment plans is due to conditions beyond their control and *decides* that these Member States may take part in the voting at the 29th session of the General Conference;
2. *Invites* the Director-General to report to the 155th and 157th sessions of the Executive Board as well as to the 30th session of the General Conference on the actual position concerning all payment plans agreed upon between UNESCO and Member States in arrears with their contributions.

03 Adoption of the agenda

At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 21 October 1997, the General Conference, having considered the provisional agenda drawn up by the Executive Board (29 C/1 (prov.) Rev.), adopted that document. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 October 1997, it decided to add to its agenda items 4.15, 4.16, 4.17, 8.3 and 9.19 (29 C/BUR/2), and at its 20th plenary meeting, on 3 November 1997, item 4.18 (29 C/BUR/13).

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Organization of the session</p> <p>1.1 Opening of the session by the Head of the Delegation of Denmark</p> <p>1.2 Establishment of the Credentials Committee and report by the Committee to the General Conference</p> <p>1.3 Report by the Director-General on communications received from Member States invoking the provisions of Article IV.C, paragraph 8(c), of the Constitution</p> <p>1.4 Adoption of the agenda</p> | <p>1.5 Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the General Conference and of the Chairpersons, Vice-Chairpersons and Rapporteurs of the Commissions and Committees</p> <p>1.6 Organization of the work of the 29th session of the General Conference</p> <p>1.7 Admission to the 29th session of the General Conference of observers from non-governmental organizations other than those maintaining formal relations with UNESCO, and recommendations of the Executive Board thereon</p> |
|---|---|

1. Resolution adopted on the report of the Administrative Commission at the 17th and 20th plenary meetings, 30 October and 3 November 1997.

2 Reports on the activities of the Organization and evaluation of the programme

- 2.1 Report of the Director-General on the activities of the Organization in 1994-1995, introduced by the Chairperson of the Executive Board
- 2.2 Report by the Executive Board on its own activities in 1996-1997

3 Draft Programme and Budget for 1998-1999

- 3.1 Methods of preparing the budget and budget estimates for 1998-1999 and budgeting techniques
- 3.2 Adoption of the provisional budget ceiling for 1998-1999
- 3.3 Consideration and adoption of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1998-1999
- 3.4 Adoption of the Appropriation Resolution for 1998-1999

4 General policy questions

- 4.1 Implementation of 28 C/Resolution 16, concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories: Report by the Director-General
- 4.2 Jerusalem and the implementation of 28 C/Resolution 3.14
- 4.3 Draft agreement between the Lebanese Government and UNESCO concerning the establishment of an International Centre for Human Sciences at Byblos
- 4.4 Implementation of 150 EX/Decision 3.1, Part III, concerning the Sana'a Declaration
- 4.5 Establishment of a UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education
- 4.6 Proposed programme for the International Year of the Ocean (1998)
- 4.7 Fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: UNESCO action
- 4.8 Proposals by Member States for the celebration of anniversaries in 1998-1999
- 4.9 International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition
- 4.10 Report by the Director-General on the follow-up to and implementation of 151 EX/Decision 3.1 (III), concerning the situation in educational, cultural and scientific institutions in Albania
- 4.11 Establishment of an International Institute of Comparative Civilization at Takshaschila (Taxila), Pakistan
- 4.12 Follow-up to the United Nations Year for Tolerance: Report by the Director-General
- 4.13 Strategic plan for the strengthening of UNESCO's statistical programmes and services
- 4.14 Report by the Director-General on the Human Right to Peace
- 4.15 Co-ordination among UNESCO education institutes
- 4.16 Report by the Director-General on the situation of the cultural and architectural

heritage, on that of educational and cultural institutions, and on progress in executing the action plan for the rehabilitation of women, in Bosnia and Herzegovina

- 4.17 Application of 152 EX/Decision 3.1, Part I, concerning the Sofia Declaration
- 4.18 UNESCO's contribution to the 'Cultural Olympiad 2000-2004'

5 Constitutional and legal questions

- 5.1 Revision of the Statutes of the Inter-governmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS) and of the International Fund for the Development of Physical Education and Sport (FIDEPS)
- 5.2 Draft amendment to the Statutes of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education
- 5.3 Draft amendment to Article V, paragraph 4(a), of the Constitution
- 5.4 Study concerning the problems and possible solutions regarding the Conciliation and Good Offices Commission to be responsible for seeking the settlement of any disputes which may arise between States Parties to the Convention against Discrimination in Education

6 Conventions, recommendations and other international instruments

A. Consideration of existing instruments

- 6.1 Revision of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED)

B. Adoption of new instruments

- 6.2 Drawing up of a declaration on the human genome: Report by the Director-General
- 6.3 Report by the Director-General on action taken concerning the advisability of preparing an international instrument for the protection of the underwater cultural heritage
- 6.4 Preliminary report by the Director-General on the feasibility of an international instrument on the establishment of a legal framework relating to cyberspace and of a recommendation on the preservation of a balanced use of languages in cyberspace
- 6.5 Adoption of a recommendation concerning the status of higher-education teaching personnel
- 6.6 Draft declaration on the safeguarding of future generations

7 Relations with international organizations

- 7.1 Report by the Director-General on the changes in the classification of international organizations admitted to the various types of relations with UNESCO, and questions related thereto
- 7.2 Revision of the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with foundations and similar institutions

8 Methods of work of the Organization

- 8.1 Recommendations of the Working Group on the structure and function of the General Conference
- 8.2 Definition of regions with a view to the execution of regional activities
- 8.3 Application of 152 EX/Decision 6.1 concerning the implementation of decentralization

9 Administrative and financial questions

- 9.1 Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the Information Resources Development Plan
- 9.2 Financial report and audited financial statements relating to the accounts of UNESCO for the financial period ended 31 December 1995, and report by the External Auditor
- 9.3 Financial report and audited financial statements relating to the United Nations Development Programme at 31 December 1995, and report by the External Auditor
- 9.4 Financial report and interim financial statements relating to the accounts of UNESCO as at 31 December 1996 for the financial period ending 31 December 1997
- 9.5 Scale of assessments and currency of Member States' contributions
- 9.6 Collection of Member States' contributions
- 9.7 Working Capital Fund: Level and administration
- 9.8 UNESCO Coupons Programme (Facility to assist Member States to acquire the educational and scientific material necessary for technological development)
- 9.9 Staff Regulations and Staff Rules
- 9.10 Staff salaries, allowances and benefits
- 9.11 Implementation of personnel policy
- 9.12 Geographical distribution of staff
- 9.13 Administrative Tribunal: Extension of its period of jurisdiction
- 9.14 United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund: Report by the Director-General
- 9.15 UNESCO Staff Pension Committee: Election of Member States' representatives for 1998-1999
- 9.16 Report by the Director-General on the state of the Medical Benefits Fund and appointment of Member States' representatives to the Board of Management for 1998-1999
- 9.17 Mandate and report of the Headquarters Committee
- 9.18 Upkeep and renovation of Headquarters buildings: Report by the Director-General on the implementation of the Renovation Plan
- 9.19 Recommendations of the Executive Board concerning the use of the contribution of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the period 1 July to 31 December 1997

10 Elections

- 10.1 Election of Members of the Executive Board
- 10.2 Election of members of the Legal Committee for the 30th session of the General Conference
- 10.3 Election of members of the Headquarters Committee to serve until the 30th session of the General Conference
- 10.4 Election of members of the Council of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education
- 10.5 Election of four members of the Conciliation and Good Offices Commission responsible for seeking the settlement of any disputes that may arise between States Parties to the Convention against Discrimination in Education
- 10.6 Election of members of the Inter-governmental Committee for the Inter-governmental Informatics Programme
- 10.7 Election of members of the International Coordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere
- 10.8 Election of members of the Inter-governmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme
- 10.9 Election of members of the Inter-governmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation
- 10.10 Election of the members of the Executive Committee of the International Campaign for the Establishment of the Nubia Museum in Aswan and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Cairo
- 10.11 Election of members of the Inter-governmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication
- 10.12 Election of members of the Intergovernmental Council of the General Information Programme
- 10.13 Election of members of the Inter-governmental Council of the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme

11 30th session of the General Conference

- 11.1 Venue for the 30th session of the General Conference

12 Other business

- 12.1 Request for the admission of Palestine to UNESCO
- 12.2 Universal Forum of Cultures - Barcelona 2004

04 Composition of the General Committee

On the report of the Nominations Committee, which had before it the proposals made by the Executive Board, and after suspending Rule 25, paragraph 1, and Rule 38, paragraph 1, of its Rules of Procedure for the duration of the 29th session, in accordance with Rule 108 of the aforesaid Rules, the General Conference at its 2nd plenary meeting, on 21 October 1997, elected its General Committee¹ as follows:

President of the General Conference: Mr Eduardo Portella (Brazil)

Vice-Presidents of the General Conference: the heads of the delegations of the following Member States:

Angola	France	Morocco
Argentina	Gabon	Nepal
Australia	Ghana	Paraguay
Austria	Guyana	Poland
Bulgaria	Iraq	Romania
Canada	Italy	Russian Federation
China	Jamaica	Saudi Arabia
Costa Rica	Japan	South Africa
Côte d'Ivoire	Kenya	Sweden
Czech Republic	Lao People's Democratic	Switzerland
Democratic People's	Republic	Trinidad and Tobago
Republic of Korea	Lebanon	Yemen
Egypt	Lithuania	

Chairperson of Commission I: Mr A. Jalali (Islamic Republic of Iran)

Chairperson of Commission II: Mr A. Janowski (Poland)

Chairperson of Commission III: Mr M.A. Hamdan (Jordan)

Chairperson of Commission IV: Mr F. Fernández-Shaw (Spain)

Chairperson of Commission V: Mr C. Malpica Faustor (Peru)

Chairperson of the Administrative Commission: Mr B. Haïdara (Mali)

Chairperson of the Legal Committee: Ms E. Appiah (Ghana)

Chairperson of the Nominations Committee: Mr O. Lütem (Turkey)

Chairperson of the Credentials Committee: Mr A. Hussein (Malaysia)

Chairperson of the Headquarters Committee: Ms S. Mendieta de Badaroux (Honduras)

05 Organization of the work of the session

At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 October 1997, on the recommendation of the General Committee, the General Conference approved the plan for the organization of the work of the session submitted by the Executive Board (29 C/2 and Add.).

06 Admission to the 29th session of observers from international non-governmental organizations

At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 21 October 1997, the General Conference *decided* to admit as observers the representatives of the following international non-governmental organizations:

International non-governmental organizations maintaining operational relations with UNESCO

Academia Europaea

Africa Club

1. A complete list of elected officers of the General Conference is shown in the Annex to this volume.

All Africa Students Union
Associated Country Women of the World
Association francophone internationale des directeurs d'établissements scolaires
Association of Arab Universities
B'nai B'rith
Caritas Internationalis
Council for the Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa
European Coordination Bureau of International Youth Organizations
Fédération internationale Musique-Espérance
Federation of Arab News Agencies
Forum for African Women Educationalists
General Arab Women's Federation
International Alliance of Women
International Amateur Theatre Association
International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement
International Association for Water Law
International Association of Agricultural Students
International Association of Charities
International Association of Family Movements for Rural Training
International Association of Scientific Experts in Tourism
International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives
International Association of Students in Economics and Management
International Association of University Professors and Lecturers
International Association to Save Tyre
International Catholic Child Bureau
International Catholic Society for Girls
International Catholic Union of the Press
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
International Council of Associations for Science Education
International Council of Jewish Women
International Council of Women
International Dance Council
International Federation for Home Economics
International Federation for Housing and Planning
International Federation for Parent Education
International Federation of Business and Professional Women
International Federation of Educative Communities
International Humanist and Ethical Union
International League for Child and Adult Education
International Montessori Association
International Movement ATD Fourth World
International Organization for Standardization
International Peace Bureau
International School Psychology Association
International Scientific Council for Island Development
International Union for Health Promotion and Education
International Union of Family Organizations
International Union of Latin Notaries
International Union of Students
International Young Catholic Students
Islamic Call Society
Organization of African Trade Union Unity
Pan African Women's Organization
Pax Christi - International Catholic Peace Movement
Pax Romana
Private Committees, Associations and Organizations for the Safeguarding of Venice
Soroptimist International
Unda - International Catholic Association for Radio and Television
Union Internationale de la Marionnette
Universal Esperanto Association

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations
World Confederation of Labour
World Council of Comparative Education Societies
World Federation of Democratic Youth
World Federation of Scientific Workers
World Federation of the Deaf
World Jewish Congress
World Movement of Mothers
World Organization of Former Pupils of Catholic Education
World Student Christian Federation
World Union of Catholic Teachers
World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations
World Young Women's Christian Association
Zonta International

Foundations and similar institutions

Hope 87 (Hundreds of Original Projects for Employment)
Leopold Senghor Foundation
Literacy Research Centre
Simon Wiesenthal Centre
Summer Institute of Linguistics
Traditions for Tomorrow
UNESCO Centre of Catalonia
World Foundation for Aids Research and Prevention

International non-governmental organizations not maintaining official relations with UNESCO

Organization of World Heritage Cities

07 Report by the Executive Board on its own activities in 1996-1997

At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 October 1997, the General Conference took note of the Executive Board's report on its own activities in 1996-1997.

08 Tribute to Mr Nouréini Tidjani-Serpos, Chairperson of the Executive Board¹

The General Conference,

Considering that the term of office of Mr Nouréini Tidjani-Serpos will come to an end at the close of this 29th session of the General Conference,

Recognizing the determination with which he has assumed his responsibilities and his lofty vision of UNESCO's purpose, which has inspired his action to ensure that the mandate of the Executive Board is carried out in full,

Stressing also the human qualities, dynamism, attentiveness and openness to dialogue which he has demonstrated in the performance of his duties,

Noting with satisfaction the importance he has attached to the establishment and maintenance in all circumstances of smooth and effective working relations, imbued with humanity and understanding, with all Members of the Executive Board, the President of the General Conference and the Director-General,

Conveys its deep gratitude to that illustrious son of Africa, Nouréini Tidjani-Serpos, for the services he has rendered to UNESCO.

1. Resolution adopted at the 28th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

II Elections

09 Membership of electoral groups

At its 20th plenary session, on 3 November 1997, the General Conference, on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee, approved the inclusion of Nauru in Electoral Group IV and of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Electoral Group I.

010 Election of Members of the Executive Board¹

At the 21st plenary meeting, on 4 November 1997, the President announced the results of the election of Members of the Executive Board, held on the same day on the basis of the lists of candidates submitted by the Nominations Committee. The following Member States were thus elected:

Barbados	Ghana	Saint Lucia
Canada	Guinea	Samoa
China	Haiti	South Africa
Colombia	Honduras	Togo
Côte d'Ivoire	India	Uganda
Egypt	Kazakhstan	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Finland	Lebanon	Uruguay
Gabon	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Uzbekistan
Germany	Lithuania	

011 Election of Members of the Council of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education (IBE)²

The General Conference

Elects, in accordance with Article III of the Statutes of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education, the following Member States to be members of the Council of the Bureau until the end of the 31st session of the General Conference:³

1. At its 15th plenary meeting, on 29 October 1997, the General Conference took note of the agreement reached on 14 October 1997 between the States of the Latin America and Caribbean Group (GRULAC) concerning the distribution of Electoral Group III seats on the Executive Board.
2. Resolution adopted on the report of the Nominations Committee at the 24th plenary meeting, on 10 November 1997.
3. The other members of the Council, elected at the 28th session for a term of office expiring at the end of the 30th session of the General Conference, are: Bulgaria, China, Guinea, Haiti, India, Iraq, Japan, Madagascar, Namibia, Pakistan, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation and Switzerland.

Argentina	Mali	Romania
Benin	Netherlands	Spain
Canada	Oman	Sri Lanka
Denmark	Paraguay	Uruguay
Kenya	Qatar	

012 Election of Members of the Conciliation and Good Offices Commission responsible for seeking the settlement of any disputes that may arise between States Parties to the Convention against Discrimination in Education¹

The General Conference

Elects, in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 2, of the Protocol instituting a Conciliation and Good Offices Commission responsible for seeking the settlement of any disputes that may arise between States Parties to the Convention against Discrimination in Education, the following persons to be members of the said Commission until the end of the 32nd session of the General Conference:

Mr Pierre-Michel Eisemann (France)	Mr Sedfrey Ordonez (Philippines)
Mr Francesco Margiotta-Broglio (Italy)	Mr Saïd M. Tell (Jordan)

013 Election of Members of the International Co-ordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB)¹

The General Conference,

Recalling Article II of the Statutes of the International Co-ordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere, approved by 16 C/Resolution 2.313 and amended by 19 C/Resolution 2.152, 20 C/Resolution 36.1, 23 C/Resolution 32.1 and 28 C/Resolution 22,

Elects the following Member States to be members of the International Co-ordinating Council until the end of the 31st session of the General Conference:²

Australia	Jamaica	Romania
Ecuador	Japan	Spain
Egypt	Kuwait	Syrian Arab Republic
Gabon	Namibia	United Republic of
Germany	Netherlands	Tanzania
Greece		

014 Election of Members of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP)¹

The General Conference,

Recalling Article II of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme, approved by 18 C/Resolution 2.232 and amended by 20 C/Resolution 36.1, 23 C/Resolution 32.1, 27 C/Resolution 2.6 and 28 C/Resolution 22,

1. Resolution adopted on the report of the Nominations Committee at the 24th plenary meeting, on 10 November 1997.
2. The other members of the Council, elected at the 28th session and whose term of office expires at the end of the 30th session of the General Conference, are: Argentina, Benin, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Mexico, Mozambique, Norway, Panama, Poland, Russian Federation and Thailand.

Elects the following Member States to be members of the Intergovernmental Council until the end of the 31st session of the General Conference:¹

Australia	Italy	Paraguay
Austria	Japan	Poland
Benin	Kenya	Sudan
Chile	Morocco	Thailand
Indonesia	Norway	

015 Election of Members of the Intergovernmental Council of the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme²

The General Conference,

Recalling paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article II of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council for the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme, approved by 27 C/Resolution 5.2 and amended by 28 C/Resolution 22,

Elects the following Member States to be members of the Council until the end of the 31st session of the General Conference:³

Cameroon	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Peru
Cape Verde	Iraq	Poland
Chile	Italy	Romania
China	Japan	Spain
Cuba	Lebanon	Sri Lanka
Germany	Namibia	

016 Election of the Members of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS)

Pursuant to 29 C/Resolution 19, the following Member States were elected to be members of the Committee:⁴

Algeria	Georgia *	Slovakia
Bangladesh	Germany *	South Africa
Belarus *	Greece	Sri Lanka
Benin *	Jordan	United Arab Emirates *
Cameroon	Mexico *	Uruguay *
Cuba	Norway *	Viet Nam *

1. The other members of the Council, elected at the 28th session and whose term of office expires at the end of the 30th session of the General Conference, are: Algeria, Argentina, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, France, Germany, Ghana, India, Malaysia, Mauritania, Namibia, Netherlands, Oman, Panama, Romania, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Zambia.
2. Resolution adopted on the report of the Nominations Committee at the 24th plenary meeting, on 10 November 1997.
3. The other members of the Council, elected at the 28th session and whose term of office expires at the end of the 30th session of the General Conference, are: Angola, Australia, Austria, Benin, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Hungary, Jamaica, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Morocco, Netherlands, Philippines, Togo and Zambia.
4. Following the drawing of lots at the 24th plenary meeting, on 10 November 1997, the term of office of the Member States indicated by an asterisk expires at the end of the 30th session of the General Conference. The term of office of the other members of the Committee expires at the end of the 31st session of the General Conference.

017 Election of Members of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation¹

The General Conference,

Recalling 20 C/Resolution 4/7.6/5, by which it approved the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation,

Elects, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 4 of Article II of the Statutes of the Committee, as amended by 28 C/Resolution 22, the following Member States to be members of the Committee until the end of the 31st session of the General Conference:²

Algeria	Cuba	Nepal
Azerbaijan	Ethiopia	Panama
Benin	Jamaica	Republic of Korea
China		

018 Election of the Members of the Executive Committee of the International Campaign for the Establishment of the Nubia Museum in Aswan and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Cairo¹

The General Conference,

Recalling 21 C/Resolution 4/11 whereby it approved the setting up of the Executive Committee of the International Campaign for the Establishment of the Nubia Museum in Aswan and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Cairo,

Elects the following Member States to be members of the Committee until the end of the 30th session of the General Conference:

Austria	Jamaica	Thailand
Belgium	Lithuania	Uganda
Costa Rica	Poland	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Egypt	Senegal	
Finland	Sudan	
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Switzerland	

019 Election of Members of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC)¹

The General Conference

Elects, in accordance with paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of Article II of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication, as amended by 28 C/Resolution 22, the following Member States to be members of the Council until the end of the 31st session of the General Conference:³

1. Resolution adopted on the report of the Nominations Committee at the 24th plenary meeting, on 10 November 1997.
2. The other members of the Committee, elected at the 28th session and whose term of office expires at the end of the 30th session of the General Conference, are: Bolivia, Cameroon, Canada, India, Italy, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Myanmar, Netherlands, Slovakia, Togo and Ukraine.
3. The other members of the Council, elected at the 28th session and whose term of office expires at the end of the 30th session of the General Conference, are: Argentina, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, France, Germany, Haiti, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Mali, Namibia, Norway, Oman, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

Bangladesh	Guyana	Peru
Brazil	India	Philippines
Bulgaria	Indonesia	Republic of Korea
Cape Verde	Jamaica	Russian Federation
Ethiopia	Luxembourg	Saudi Arabia
Greece	Malaysia	Tunisia

020 Election of Members of the Intergovernmental Council of the General Information Programme (PGI)¹

The General Conference

Elects, in accordance with Article II, paragraphs 2, 3 and 4, of the Statutes of the Inter-governmental Council for the General Information Programme as amended by 20 C/Resolution 36.1 and 28 C/Resolution 22, the following Member States to be members of the Council until the end of the 31st session of the General Conference:²

Austria	Ethiopia	Russian Federation
Bangladesh	France	Sweden
Brazil	Mali	United Republic of Tanzania
Canada	Poland	Yemen
Cuba	Portugal	
Czech Republic	Republic of Korea	

021 Election of Members of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme (IIP)¹

The General Conference

Elects, in accordance with Article II, paragraphs 2, 3 and 4, of the Statutes of the Inter-governmental Committee for the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme, as amended by 28 C/Resolution 22, the following Member States to be members of the Intergovernmental Committee until the end of the 31st session of the General Conference:³

Benin	India	Russian Federation
Cameroon	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Spain
Cuba	Mali	Sweden
Dominican Republic	Mozambique	Thailand
Egypt	Peru	Ukraine
Greece	Republic of Korea	

1. Resolution adopted on the report of the Nominations Committee at the 24th plenary meeting, on 10 November 1997.
2. The other members of the Council, elected at the 28th session and whose term of office expires at the end of the 30th session of the General Conference, are: Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chile, China, Ecuador, Egypt, Germany, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Madagascar, Morocco, Philippines, Switzerland, Togo, Uganda, Uruguay and Viet Nam.
3. The other members of the Committee, elected at the 28th session and whose term of office expires at the end of the 30th session of the General Conference, are: Bulgaria, Canada, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Guinea, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

022 Composition of the Legal Committee until the end of the 30th session

On the report of the Nominations Committee, the General Conference, at its 24th plenary meeting, on 10 November 1997 elected the following Member States to be members of the Legal Committee until the end of the 30th session:

Algeria	France	Russian Federation
Argentina	Germany	Switzerland
Bangladesh	Ghana	Turkey
Benin	Guatemala	United Kingdom of Great
Chile	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Britain and Northern
Cuba	Iraq	Ireland
Czech Republic	Kenya	Venezuela
Egypt	Lebanon	

023 Composition of the Headquarters Committee until the end of the 30th session

On the report of the Nominations Committee, the General Conference, at its 24th plenary meeting, on 10 November 1997 elected the following Member States to be members of the Headquarters Committee until the end of the 30th session:

Benin	Lebanon	Romania
Cuba	Malawi	Saint Lucia
Finland	Malaysia	Senegal
France	Monaco	Slovakia
Gabon	Myanmar	Syrian Arab Republic
Ghana	Nigeria	Turkey
India	Panama	Uganda
Iraq	Philippines	Uruguay
Kazakhstan		

III Programme for 1998-1999

Major Programmes

1 Major Programme I: Education for all throughout life¹

The General Conference

1. *Authorizes* the Director-General to implement this major programme in accordance with the main lines of emphasis set out in document 29 C/5;
2. *Invites* the Director-General, in particular:
 - A. Under Programme I.1, 'Basic education for all', which is aimed at expanding access to basic education in the perspective of education for all throughout life and renewing its contents, methods and process to suit the needs of individual and societal development:
 - (a) to give high priority to the educational needs of girls and women, especially in rural areas, and of disadvantaged and marginalized youth as well as those of Member States of Africa, the nine high-population countries and the least developed countries;
 - (b) to enhance the capacity of Member States to expand pre-primary and primary education systems and improve their quality and internal efficiency, in particular by developing learner-centred curricula and methods focusing on human and civic values, ethics and basic skills, by promoting special needs education and by intensifying the pre-service and in-service training of teachers;
 - (c) to assist in the further development of early childhood education programmes and services, in particular by fostering wider awareness among community leaders, international non-governmental organizations, employers, parents, associations of teachers and of school principals and local authorities;
 - (d) to foster the expansion of literacy, post-literacy and basic adult education programmes through diverse and flexible delivery modes and programmes focused on the acquisition of practical skills for daily life and employment;
 - (e) to enhance basic education opportunities for the 'unreached', especially girls and women in rural areas, victims of sexual exploitation, children and youth with special educational needs, street and working children, school drop-outs and unemployed youth, by fostering programmes, methods and delivery modes adapted to the needs and language of the learners, and by making appropriate use of local resources and information and communication technologies;
 - (f) to promote community education programmes, in selected countries, as a means of providing learning opportunities to the whole community, especially girls and women;
 - (g) to mobilize support for basic education for all from the principal international and regional institutions and other major stakeholders, in particular the Jomtien partners, through the International Consultative Forum on Education for All;

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission II at the 26th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

- (h) to sustain political and public commitment in favour of basic education for all by reinforcing co-operation with National Commissions, media representatives, opinion leaders, voluntary associations, parliamentarians and development partners;
 - (i) to support the efforts being made in the nine high-population countries to implement the Declaration and Framework of Action adopted at the New Delhi Education for All Summit (December 1993), particularly the development of collaborative projects in distance education, especially regional networking of teacher-training institutions;
 - (j) to intensify efforts to promote basic education for all, especially for girls and women, in sub-Saharan Africa, and to convene the seventh Conference of Ministers of Education of African Member States (MINEDAF VII) in 1998;
- B. Under Programme I.2, 'Reform of education in the perspective of education throughout life', which is intended to renew, diversify and expand education systems, programmes and processes, in the perspective of education throughout life and render them more responsive to social transformations and to the challenges of the twenty-first century:
- (a) to continue to support, as a follow-up to the report of the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-first Century, *Learning: The Treasure Within*, reflection and debate in Member States on the educational challenges of the twenty-first century and the formulation of appropriate strategies for the renewal of their education systems, and to develop to that end policy-relevant education indicators;
 - (b) to improve further the relevance and efficiency of the information and materials disseminated through the various educational information and documentation services of the Organization;
 - (c) to intensify support, in the context of the Learning Without Frontiers initiative, for the development of diversified open and distance learning modalities at all levels of education - both formal and non-formal - in order to reach the 'unreached' and to meet the changing learning needs of all throughout life, and to promote to this end the appropriate use of new information and communication technologies;
 - (d) to strengthen national capacities for planning and implementing diverse forms of adult and continuing education in the light of the recommendations of the fifth International Conference on Adult Education (Hamburg, July 1997), including on-the-job and innovative skills training for improved self-reliance in a context of poverty, unemployment and economic uncertainty;
 - (e) to strengthen advisory and upstream support services for Member States to assist them in elaborating national policies and action plans for the reform and reconstruction of education systems, including educational buildings and furniture as well as textbooks and learning materials;
 - (f) to intensify efforts for the renewal of educational structures, contents and methods at secondary level, with emphasis on improving the articulation between general, technical and vocational programmes and developing flexible learning modalities with a view to reaching a larger number of learners, especially girls and women;
 - (g) to promote the renewal of curricula and contents, with emphasis on the acquisition of values and attitudes conducive to democratic citizenship and life in a multicultural society and on the improvement of science and technology education;
 - (h) to promote preventive education programmes against drug abuse (including the abuse of alcohol and tobacco) and AIDS;
 - (i) to strengthen, as a follow-up to the recommendations of the 45th session of the International Conference on Education (October 1996), Member States' capacity to reinforce teacher education and improve the status of teachers, in particular by promoting co-operation among national training institutions at regional and subregional levels;
 - (j) to promote technical and vocational education mainly through the International Project on Technical and Vocational Education (UNEVOC) and to organize the second International Congress on Technical and Vocational Education in 1999;
 - (k) to continue to foster worldwide reflection and policy debates on the role and functions of higher education at the turn of the century, and to convene a World Conference on Higher Education in 1998 with a view to adopting a Global Action Plan for the in-depth reform of higher education systems;
 - (l) to pursue the development of the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme, paying special attention to improving their sustainability and strengthening international inter-university co-operation;

- (m) to continue to promote academic mobility, in particular by supporting the action of government committees in charge of the application of the conventions on the recognition of studies, degrees and diplomas;
- (n) to strengthen the contribution made by higher education to the education system as a whole, including adult education.

2 UNESCO International Bureau of Education (IBE)¹

The General Conference,

Recalling the Medium-Term Strategy for 1996-2001 and IBE's important mission in achieving the objectives of Major Programme I, 'Education for all throughout life', which gives high priority to the development and improvement of education systems, particularly in developing countries,

1. *Authorizes* the Director-General to provide the UNESCO International Bureau of Education with a financial allocation under the regular programme of US \$7 million to enable it to meet the needs of Member States within its fields of competence and in accordance with the lines of action of its own medium-term strategy, by:
 - (a) playing the role of an observatory for the evolution of educational structures, contents and methods, by:
 - (i) producing up-to-date information on the main trends in educational development for use by decision-makers, researchers and trainers of trainers;
 - (ii) implementing common programmes to collect and exchange information between the existing information and innovation networks, making greater use of new information technologies;
 - (iii) carrying out comparative analyses of educational structures, contents and methods, in co-operation with specialized institutions, at the national and international levels;
 - (iv) training staff responsible for educational information and publishing the review *Prospects* and the bulletin *Innovations*;
 - (b) promoting the advancement of knowledge of educational processes and changes in the field of pedagogy by encouraging and supporting innovations in curricula, teaching methods and the production of teaching materials, particularly with regard to education for peace, solidarity, democracy and international understanding;
 - (c) serving as a forum of dialogue between decision-makers, researchers, educators and other partners in the educational process by:
 - (i) renewing the commitment to achieve the objectives of education for all by preparing, in accordance with 28 C/Resolution 1.2, the 46th session of the International Conference on Education on 'Education for all, ten years after Jomtien', and seeking the co-operation of the Jomtien partners to this effect;
 - (ii) organizing observer missions, in agreement with Member States, on the development of education fostering the ability to live together, as part of the follow-up to the conclusions of the report of the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-first Century;
2. *Requests* the IBE Council to continue to be accountable for the preparation of the Bureau's programme of activities and the monitoring of programme execution within the framework of the restructuring process already initiated;
3. *Invites* Member States and international organizations to contribute financially and by other appropriate means to the implementation of the activities of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission II at the 26th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

3 Amendment of the Statutes of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education¹

The General Conference,

Having examined the document entitled ‘Draft amendments to the Statutes of the International Bureau of Education’ (29 C/11),

Approves the amendments to the Statutes of the International Bureau of Education contained in the annex to this resolution.

Annex *Articles of the Statutes of the UNESCO International Bureau of Education amended by the Conference*

.....

Article II

1. The Bureau shall contribute to the design and implementation of the programme of the Organization in regard to education. To that end, its functions shall be:

- (a) to prepare for and organize the sessions of the International Conference on Education as an international forum for dialogue on educational policy, in accordance with the decisions of the General Conference and subject to UNESCO rules in force and applicable;
- (b) to assist in the dissemination and implementation of the declarations and recommendations adopted by the International Conference on Education;
- (c) to collect, process, analyse, systematize, produce and disseminate, using the latest techniques, documentation and information concerning education, in particular on innovations concerning curricula, teaching methods and teacher education, in co-operation with the other competent units of UNESCO and in liaison with national, regional and international institutions and networks;
-
- (e) to maintain and develop an international educational information centre;
- (f) to contribute to and provide technical assistance for the strengthening of national capacities regarding information and comparative research, through, in particular, the promotion of training of staff specializing in these fields;
- (g) to conserve the archives and historical collections of the International Bureau of Education and make them accessible to the public.

2. The general programme and budget of the Bureau shall be part of the programme and budget of UNESCO. The resources of the Bureau shall consist of the financial allocation assigned to it by the General Conference of UNESCO, and of gifts, bequests, subventions and voluntary contributions received in accordance with the Financial Regulations applicable to the Special Account of the International Bureau of Education.

Article III

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3. *[deleted]*

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Article IV

1. The Council shall meet in ordinary session at least once every year. It may meet in extraordinary session, if convened by the Director-General of UNESCO or at the request of 15 of its members.

.....

5. The Council shall elect its Steering Committee, comprising a President and five Vice-Presidents, who shall be nationals of the six regional groups. The President of the Council shall preside over the Steering Committee. The Council shall renew its Steering Committee at its first session following the ordinary session of the General Conference at which the Council has been partially renewed. The members of the Steering Committee shall be eligible for re-election, provided the terms of office of the Member States of the Council which they represent are renewed by the General Conference, but they shall not hold office for more than two consecutive terms. The Steering Committee shall remain in office until the election of a new Steering Committee.

6. The Council may set up subsidiary bodies to assist it in the execution of its specific tasks.

Article V

- 1. The tasks of the Council shall be:
 - (a) to draw up, on the proposals of the Director of the Bureau, taking into account the lines of emphasis of medium-term planning, the draft general programme and budget of the Bureau, for submission to the General Conference with the observations or recommendations of the Director-General and the Executive Board, and to take steps to ensure the consistency and complementarity of the activities foreseen in the draft general programme and budget of the Bureau with the other activities foreseen in the draft programme and budget of UNESCO;

1. Resolution adopted on the report of the Legal Committee at the 25th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

- (b) to define in detail, within the framework of the programme and budget approved by the General Conference and taking available extrabudgetary resources into account, as appropriate, the activities to be undertaken by the Bureau. The Council shall supervise the implementation of the programme of activities of the Bureau and shall mobilize human and financial resources;
- (c) to approve the draft annual budget of the Bureau which is submitted to it by the Director;
- (d) to verify budget execution and the audited accounts of the Bureau and the report of the External Auditor of UNESCO relating to the Bureau;
- (e) [former subparagraph (c)]
- (f) [former subparagraph (d)]
- (g) [former subparagraph (e)]

Article VI

1. The Director of the Bureau shall be appointed by the Director-General from the list prepared by the Council, in accordance with Article V (f).

.....

3. The Director shall be responsible for the administration of the Bureau, in accordance with the Financial Regulations applicable to the Special Account for the International Bureau of Education, the Financial Rules applicable to the Special Account for the International Bureau of Education and the General Framework for the Delegation of Authority Granted to the Director of the IBE for the Management of Posts and Staff.

Article VII

1. The Director and personnel of the Bureau shall be members of the UNESCO staff and be subject to the provisions of the UNESCO Staff Regulations approved by the General Conference, with the exception of staff employed on an occasional basis as provided for in the administrative instructions contained in the UNESCO Manual.

.....

4 UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP)¹

The General Conference,

Recognizing the important mission of the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) in the fulfilment of Major Programme I, 'Education for all throughout life', through the training of educational managers, planners and administrators, applied research in the priority programmes decided by the General Conference of UNESCO and the execution of an increased number of operational programmes entrusted to it by Member States,

Recognizing further the specific contribution made by IIEP to the transdisciplinary project 'Towards a culture of peace' by providing Member States in transition from instability with development assistance for the reform and reconstruction of their education systems,

1. *Requests* the IIEP Governing Board, in accordance with the Institute's Statutes and the present resolution, when approving the Institute's budget for 1998-1999:
 - (a) to reinforce national capacities for the management, planning and administration of education systems, in particular for the financial management of education, the mobilization of alternative resources and the diversification of delivery systems in order to address the special needs of the disadvantaged groups;
 - (b) to strengthen national, subregional and interregional training programmes in educational planning and administration, in co-operation with UNESCO's field units;
 - (c) to undertake research and studies aimed at the upgrading of knowledge in educational planning and administration, and at the production, sharing and transfer of knowledge among Member States;
 - (d) to facilitate the exchange of experience and information in educational planning and administration and ensure the appropriate dissemination among Member States of the results of the work carried out;
 - (e) to implement operational projects in its field of competence;
2. *Authorizes* the Director-General to take the necessary measures to support the operation of the Institute by providing a financial allocation under the regular programme of US \$6 million under Major Programme I;
3. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Member States and organizations that have supported the Institute's programme through voluntary contributions or contractual agreements, as well as to the

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission II at the 26th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

French Government, which provides its premises free of charge and periodically finances their upkeep, and *invites* them to continue their support for 1998-1999 and future years;

4. *Appeals* to Member States to renew or increase their voluntary contributions, with a view to strengthening IIEP's activities, in accordance with Article VIII of its Statutes, so that, with additional resources, and its premises provided by the French Government, it can better meet the growing needs of Member States.

5 UNESCO Institute for Education (UIE)¹

The General Conference,

Acknowledging the report of the UNESCO Institute for Education (UIE) for the 1996-1997 biennium,

Noting the significant mission of UIE in the fulfilment of Major Programme I, 'Education for all throughout life', and *aware* of the resonance of the fifth International Conference on Adult Education (Hamburg, July 1997),

Recognizing the contribution UIE is expected to make with its policy research and services, its training programmes and professional support to Member States,

Noting the paramount importance of adult learning for the development of society and also the growing interconnection of adult literacy, continuing education and training, university extension work and sociocultural education,

1. *Requests* the UIE Governing Board:

- (a) to contribute to monitoring the transition of education systems towards lifelong education;
 - (b) to take responsibility and play a catalyst role in the follow-up to the fifth International Conference on Adult Education and to mobilize inter-agency co-operation and partnerships for the monitoring and implementation of the Agenda for the Future adopted by the Conference;
 - (c) to provide Member States and institutions with support for projects and policy development in the field of adult and continuing education;
 - (d) to reinforce national capacities for the assessment of adult learning needs and for the improved provision of learning opportunities for the adult population;
 - (e) to offer a fellowships and training programme for senior policy-makers and research staff in the field of adult education;
2. *Authorizes* the Director-General to support the Institute by providing a financial allocation of US \$1,700,000 under Major Programme I;
 3. *Expresses its gratitude* to the German Government which gives a substantial financial contribution and provides its premises free of charge and to the Member States and foundations that have supported UIE's programme with voluntary contributions, and *invites* them to continue their support for 1998-1999 and future years;
 4. *Appeals* to Member States to grant or renew their support in order to enable UIE to meet the expectations expressed at the Hamburg Conference in 1997.

6 Establishment of a UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (IITE)¹

The General Conference,

Recalling 28 C/Resolution 1.17 'The use of new technologies in education', which invites the Director-General: '(a) to promote and develop the research on methodology, education and teaching needed to ensure not only mastery of the new technologies by teachers and learners alike, but also better understanding of the effects of these new technologies on education systems; and (b) to encourage and support the implementation of distance-education projects, particularly in developing countries',

Taking into account the recommendation of the second International Congress on Education and Informatics (Moscow, July 1996), paragraph 29 of decision 5.1 adopted by the Executive Board at its 150th session (Paris, October 1996) and the recommendations of the High-Level Expert Group Consultation (Paris, June 1997),

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission II at the 26th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

Recognizing the great potential of information and communication technologies for education, science, culture, peace and international understanding,

Taking into account the needs of developing countries that must be met in order to bridge the gap between them and the developed countries in this area,

Recognizing the importance of establishing an international mechanism to assist Member States in the application of information and communication technologies in education,

Taking note of the report on the proposed establishment of a UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (29 C/10),

Noting further 152 EX/Decision 3.4.3,

1. *Decides* to establish in Moscow a UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (IITE) in accordance with the Approved Statutes annexed to this resolution;

2. *Authorizes* the Director-General:

(a) to grant a financial allocation of US \$1,000,000 under Major Programme I and to continue his efforts aimed at establishing and developing the activities of the Institute;

(b) to accept on behalf of the Institute financial or other assistance from Member States, international governmental and non-governmental bodies, foundations and funding agencies as well as sponsoring from the private sector in conformity with UNESCO regulations and subject to the approval of the Governing Board of the Institute.

Annex *Statutes of the UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education (IITE)*

Article I - Establishment of the Institute

1. An Institute for Information Technologies in Education (IITE) (hereinafter called 'the Institute') is hereby established within the framework of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
2. The Institute shall be located in Moscow (Russian Federation).

giving priority to developing countries and countries in transition;

- (e) to foster the development of UNESCO's regional programmes on the application of information and communication technologies in education in all Member States and in particular in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Article II - Aims and functions

1. The Institute shall contribute to the design and implementation of the programme of the Organization in regard to the application of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in education.
2. To that end, its functions shall be:
 - (a) to promote the collection, analysis, dissemination and exchange of information on the use of information and communication technologies in education;
 - (b) to provide at the request of Member States advisory services and promote studies in Member States on the application of information and communication technologies in education;
 - (c) to offer technical assistance based on research findings in the design of curricula and courses on the use of information and communication technologies in education;
 - (d) to organize pre- and in-service training, including open and distance education, for educational personnel on the use of information and communication technologies in education,

Article III - Governing Board - Membership

1. The Institute shall be administered by a Governing Board (hereinafter called 'the Board') consisting of 11 members, appointed by the Director-General of UNESCO on a geographical distribution basis that is as equitable and as wide as possible. One of the members shall be a national of the Russian Federation. Members shall be chosen for their eminence in the field and shall sit in a personal capacity.
2. The members shall be appointed for four years. They shall be eligible for a further term but shall not serve for more than two consecutive terms.
3. If any member resigns or is prevented from carrying out his/her duties, the Director-General of UNESCO shall appoint a new member to hold office for the remainder of the term of the person he/she replaces.
4. The Director-General or his/her appointed representative shall attend all meetings of the Board. He/she may at any time make oral or written statements to the Board concerning any questions under consideration by them.
5. Members shall not receive salaries in respect of their duties, but the expenses incurred on behalf of the Institute should be reimbursed to them.

Article IV - Functions

The functions of the Board shall be:

- (a) to determine the general policy and the nature of the Institute's activities within the framework of the general policy of UNESCO, with due regard to the obligations resulting from the fact that the Institute has been established within the framework of UNESCO;
- (b) to decide how the funds available for the operation of the Institute are to be used, in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII, and to approve the annual budget of the Institute on the basis of estimated resources;
- (c) to approve the acceptance of voluntary contributions and contractual revenues from sales of services or fees for special purposes as stated in Article VIII, paragraph 2;
- (d) to request the prior approval of the Director-General and the Executive Board of UNESCO, should the acceptance of contributions, gifts or bequests involve additional liabilities for the Institute;
- (e) to adopt and address to the Director-General of UNESCO an annual report on activities and to review progress in the work of the Institute with a view to achieving the aims of the Institute;
- (f) to examine the financial statement of account after it has been submitted by the Director-General of UNESCO for audit to the External Auditor of UNESCO;
- (g) to assist the Director-General of UNESCO in his/her nomination of a Director of the Institute by submitting a list of three names from which his/her choice will be made.

Article V - Procedure

1. The Board shall elect its Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.
2. The Board shall meet at least once a year and whenever necessary in the interest of the Institute or for the requirements of its business. It shall be convened by the Chairperson, who shall draw up the agenda, at least four weeks before the date of the meeting. The Chairperson must call a meeting if the Director or at least five members of the Board request it.
3. Decisions shall be taken by a simple majority. Each member of the Board shall have one vote.
4. Six members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.
5. The Director of the Institute shall act as Secretary to its meetings.
6. Minutes of meetings shall be taken which shall record the resolutions passed and shall be signed by the Chairperson and Secretary.
7. The Chairperson shall represent the Board between meetings and supervise work together with the representative of the Director-General to the extent to which authority is delegated to him/her by the Board; he/she shall report to the Board on the actions taken.
8. The Board shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.

Article VI - The Director

1. The Director of the Institute shall be appointed by the Director-General of UNESCO in consultation with the Board.
2. The Director, within the lines laid down by the Board, shall conduct the business of the Institute.
3. In particular, the Director shall prepare the programme and budget of the Institute in keeping with the general policy of UNESCO, the resolutions of the General Conference, the policy orientations and the main lines of emphasis of the education programme of UNESCO and the annual reports of activities.
4. The Director shall nominate the local staff and submit to the Director-General of UNESCO the names of candidates for National Project Officers (NPOs) supported by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Article VII - The staff

1. The Director and the international professional staff of the Institute shall be regarded as officials of UNESCO within the meaning of Article VI, Section 18, of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies.
2. Members of the Institute's specialized staff may be authorized, under conditions laid down by the Director, to take part in research or in surveys organized by other international institutions or by governments on questions falling within the Institute's field of competence. In no case, however, may the loan of services of a staff member of the Institute entail interruption or serious delay in the accomplishment of the day-to-day activities of the Institute.

Article VIII - Finance

1. The financial year of the Institute shall begin on 1 January and end on 31 December in each year.
2. The funds set aside for the operation of the Institute shall consist of the financial allocations determined by the General Conference of UNESCO and contributions made by the Russian Federation, in addition to subventions, gifts and bequests made to it by other United Nations agencies, governments, public or private organizations, associations or individuals and fees collected for special purposes.
3. Funds received for the operation of the Institute shall be paid into a Special Account to be set up by the Director-General of UNESCO, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Organization's Financial Regulations. This Special Account shall be operated and the Institute's budget administered in keeping with the above-mentioned provisions.

Article IX - Transitional provisions

1. The Director-General of UNESCO shall make all necessary arrangements for the Institute's entry into

operation and for the establishment of its Board. For this purpose, pending the adoption of the Institute's annual budget, the Director-General of UNESCO shall incur the necessary expenditure from funds voted by the General Conference.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles IV and VI, the Director-General of UNESCO shall appoint the first Director and, in agreement with the latter, appoint the first senior officials of the Institute without consulting the Board.

Article X

1. The present Statutes may be amended only if proposed alterations are presented to the members of the Board at least two months before the meeting during which a decision is to be taken. Amendments to the Statutes require a majority of three-quarters.
2. Any amendment of Article II shall require the approval of the Government of the Russian Federation and the Director-General of UNESCO.

7 Co-ordination among UNESCO education institutes¹

The General Conference,

Having taken note of 152 EX/Decision 3.4.3,

Considering the need for better co-ordination among existing UNESCO education institutes and the further demand for such institutes,

Recalling 151 EX/Decision 5.1, paragraph 22, to the effect that a more coherent approach should be achieved for the UNESCO education institutes with a view to ensuring a clear division of tasks and avoiding duplication of efforts among the institutes and vis-à-vis the Secretariat,

Considering the need to design appropriate arrangements to formulate a coherent strategy and set up priorities throughout all the UNESCO education institutes in line with the Medium-Term Strategy (C/4) and the Programme and Budget (C/5) with the full participation of Member States,

Invites the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board at its 155th session a report for this purpose together with his proposals to improve co-ordination among existing, new or planned institutes and between such institutes and the Secretariat taking into account the debate during the 29th session of the General Conference.

8 Early childhood education¹

The General Conference,

Fully aware of United Nations goals for social development, including poverty alleviation and social integration, and of its legal instruments which note that families, supported by governments, are children's primary caregivers and educators,

Recalling the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development adopted by the World Summit for Social Development in which governments commit themselves to formulating and strengthening time-bound national strategies for the eradication of illiteracy and the universalization of basic education, which includes early childhood education (Commitment 6(a)),

Recalling also the World Declaration on Education for All, which proclaims that learning begins at birth and that the fundamental human right to education should be met from the earliest years, through either family-focused or centre-based programming,

Cognizant of the priority given by UNESCO in its Medium-Term Strategy (1996-2001) to lifelong learning, women's education and the management of social change,

Acknowledging the importance which the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-first Century attaches to early childhood in its report to UNESCO (Learning: The Treasure Within) and noticing with concern that early childhood education is still very poorly developed in most countries of the world,

Conscious that early childhood development and education is increasingly being recognized as an essential strategy in the social development policies of nations and in ensuring the adaptation of young children in the primary education system,

Recognizing the paramount importance of community and family-based learning systems as well as of lifelong learning by both parents and children as a fundamental contribution to social cohesion and, thereby, in the prevention of exclusion and the rebuilding of fragmented communities,

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission II at the 26th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

- Expressing satisfaction* with UNESCO's activities in this field so far, especially with the submission of the Director-General's report (29 C/INF.8) on education in the early years as the foundation of learning,
- Observing* that after a necessary period of analysis and stock-taking the time is ripe for turning towards concrete action,
- Convinced*, more specifically, of the necessity of turning valuable ideas and successful small-scale experience into integrated low-cost services reaching large sectors of the population, and of the desirability of setting up mechanisms for transferring good practice,
- Emphasizing* the need for raising awareness among policy-makers and for capacity-building for early childhood education programmes,
1. *Recommends* that early childhood development and family education should remain an integral part of all strategies promoting basic education as defined in the recommendations of the World Conference on Education for All in Jomtien in 1990;
 2. *Calls upon* Member States:
 - (a) to put forward energetic policies for establishing or strengthening high-quality, integrated early childhood and family programming at national level, where necessary by setting up pilot projects, the first new project being executed in Tunisia;
 - (b) to provide adequate investment for such programming, in particular for disadvantaged and vulnerable social groups;
 - (c) to utilize policy measures, public media and community development mechanisms to help families rear their children and transmit basic life-skills;
 - (d) to organize, in co-operation with UNESCO, policy planning meetings to raise awareness among policy-makers of the importance of early childhood and family education;
 - (e) to encourage research on early childhood education in the sociolinguistic, ethnocultural and educational context;
 3. *Invites* the Director-General:
 - (a) to continue his work in developing early childhood programmes, including special needs education, at regional level, in particular in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, the Arab States, and in Latin America and the Caribbean, and to establish regional training centres for high-level policy-makers and other professionals in the education and social development fields;
 - (b) to see to it that:
 - (i) early childhood development and family education are fully integrated in the education programmes of all Regional Offices;
 - (ii) advisory services and adequate technical assistance in policy-making and planning in early childhood and family education are available in UNESCO's Regional Offices;
 - (c) to strengthen information flows to Member States, in particular to ministries of education, health and social welfare and families, concerning best practice in early childhood and family education programming, and to create co-operative links between policy-makers, researchers and practitioners in the field;
 - (d) to initiate and support international events aiming to raise awareness of the importance of early childhood education among policy-makers;
 - (e) to mobilize UNESCO's Fellowship Programme in order to enable early childhood policy-makers and programme managers to be professionally trained;
 - (f) to ensure that both expenditure on and the outcomes of early childhood education programmes, both centre-based and home-based, will be included in international statistics and indicators, particularly in UNESCO's International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED);
 - (g) to reaffirm his commitment to early childhood education by:
 - (i) ensuring an adequate number of highly competent staff;
 - (ii) not only maintaining UNESCO's action at the present level but possibly also reinforcing it;
 - (h) to report on the results of these activities and the progress of early childhood education in each region to the General Conference at its 30th session;
 4. *Appeals* to UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, the World Bank, the regional development banks, donor countries, NGOs, foundations, companies and other (inter)governmental, public and private partners engaged in promoting sustainable development, basic education, social welfare and social cohesion to raise the priority given to early childhood development and family education, to co-operate with UNESCO in so doing, and to assist UNESCO in developing the actions outlined above.

9 Children in difficult circumstances¹

The General Conference,

Taking into account the World Declaration on Education for All, which recognizes the necessity of meeting the basic learning needs of children with limited or no access to formal education,

Noting that despite the successes achieved in the combat against illiteracy, many children, especially in the developing countries, still do not have access to the benefits of education,

Noting the ever increasing number of children in difficult circumstances, in particular in the developing countries,

Considering the need to improve the living conditions of these children,

1. *Welcomes* the pilot educational projects for children in difficult circumstances as well as for children with special educational needs that have already been implemented;
2. *Stresses* the need to perpetuate this action, particularly by giving systematic consideration to the educational needs of these children in the programmes of the Organization;
3. *Requests* Member States and non-governmental organizations to intensify the action they are taking to secure the harmonious social integration of children in difficult circumstances.

10 Adult education in the twenty-first century¹

The General Conference,

Recalling and endorsing the Hamburg Declaration and the Agenda for the Future of adult learning adopted by the fifth International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA V),

Referring to the 'potential contribution of adult and continuing education to the creation of an informed and tolerant citizenry, economic and social development, the promotion of literacy, the alleviation of poverty and the preservation of the environment',

Aware of the changing role of the state, which is 'not only a provider of adult education services, but also an adviser, a funder and a monitoring and evaluating agency', which obliges governments and social partners 'to support individuals in expressing their educational needs and aspirations, and in gaining access to educational opportunities throughout their lives',

Recognizing that globalization, privatization, structural adjustments to economies and debt-serving liabilities have forced cutbacks in investment in the education and other social sectors by most governments, resulting in greater hardship to those at the lower end of the socio-economic scale,

Recognizing further that the least developed countries are home to an ever-increasing proportion of the world's illiterate population, which has risen from 15 per cent of the world's population in 1980 to 19 per cent in 1995, and which will live in constant danger of being left behind unless serious world action is adopted,

Abiding by the commitment of the Hamburg Declaration in its closing statement which reads as follows: 'We, gathered together in Hamburg, convinced of the necessity of adult learning, pledge that all men and women will be provided with the opportunity to learn throughout their lives. To that end, we will forge extended alliances to mobilize and share resources in order to make adult learning a joy, a tool, a right and a shared responsibility',

1. *Invites* the Director-General to steer an international initiative to maintain considerable support for the least developed countries which would enable them to implement the objectives of adult education in the twenty-first century in the context of the Hamburg Declaration and the Agenda for the Future of adult learning;
2. *Invites* Member States and other donor agencies to support literacy and adult education programmes in the least developed countries.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission II at the 26th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

11 Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel¹

The General Conference,

Having examined document 29 C/12, containing the draft recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel,

Approves the said Recommendation in accordance with Articles 11 and 12 of the Rules of Procedure concerning recommendations to Member States and international conventions covered by the terms of Article IV, paragraph 4, of the Constitution.

Annex *Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel*

Preamble

The General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), meeting in Paris from 21 October to 12 November 1997, at its 29th session,

Conscious of the responsibility of states for the provision of education for all in fulfilment of Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948),

Recalling in particular the responsibility of the states for the provision of higher education in fulfilment of Article 13, paragraph 1(c), of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966),

Conscious that higher education and research are instrumental in the pursuit, advancement and transfer of knowledge and constitute an exceptionally rich cultural and scientific asset,

Also conscious that governments and important social groups, such as students, industry and labour, are vitally interested in and benefit from the services and outputs of the higher education systems,

Recognizing the decisive role of higher-education teaching personnel in the advancement of higher education, and the importance of their contribution to the development of humanity and modern society,

Convinced that higher-education teaching personnel, like all other citizens, are expected to endeavour to enhance the observance in society of the cultural, economic, social, civil and political rights of all peoples,

Aware of the need to reshape higher education to meet social and economic changes and for higher-education teaching personnel to participate in this process,

Expressing concern regarding the vulnerability of the academic community to untoward political pressures which could undermine academic freedom,

Considering that the right to education, teaching and research can only be fully enjoyed in an atmosphere of academic freedom and autonomy for institutions of higher education and that the open communication of findings, hypotheses and opinions lies at the very heart of higher education and provides

the strongest guarantee of the accuracy and objectivity of scholarship and research,

Concerned to ensure that higher-education teaching personnel enjoy the status commensurate with this role,

Recognizing the diversity of cultures in the world,

Taking into account the great diversity of the laws, regulations, practices and traditions which, in different countries, determine the patterns and organization of higher education,

Mindful of the diversity of arrangements which apply to higher-education teaching personnel in different countries, in particular according to whether the regulations concerning the public service apply to them,

Convinced nevertheless that similar questions arise in all countries with regard to the status of higher-education teaching personnel and that these questions call for the adoption of common approaches and so far as practicable the application of common standards which it is the purpose of this Recommendation to set out,

Bearing in mind such instruments as the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education (1960), which recognizes that UNESCO has a duty not only to proscribe any form of discrimination in education, but also to promote equality of opportunity and treatment for all in education at all levels, including the conditions under which it is given, as well as the Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers (1966) and the UNESCO Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers (1974), as well as the instruments of the International Labour Organization on freedom of association and the right to organize and to collective bargaining and on equality of opportunity and treatment,

Desiring to complement existing conventions, covenants and recommendations contained in international standards set out in the appendix with provisions relating to problems of particular concern to higher education institutions and their teaching and research personnel,

Adopts the present Recommendation on 11 November 1997.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission II at the 26th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

I. Definitions

1. For the purpose of this Recommendation:
 - (a) 'higher education' means programmes of study, training or training for research at the post-secondary level provided by universities or other educational establishments that are approved as institutions of higher education by the competent state authorities, and/or through recognized accreditation systems;
 - (b) 'research', within the context of higher education, means original scientific, technological and engineering, medical, cultural, social and human science or educational research which implies careful, critical, disciplined inquiry, varying in technique and method according to the nature and conditions of the problems identified, directed towards the clarification and/or resolution of the problems, and when within an institutional framework, supported by an appropriate infrastructure;
 - (c) 'scholarship' means the processes by which higher-education teaching personnel keep up to date with their subject, engage in scholarly editing, disseminate their work and improve their pedagogical skills as teachers in their discipline and upgrade their academic credentials;
 - (d) 'extension work' means a service by which the resources of an educational institution are extended beyond its confines to serve a widely diversified community within the state or region regarded as the constituent area of the institution, so long as this work does not contradict the mission of the institution. In teaching it may include a wide range of activities such as extramural, lifelong and distance education delivered through evening classes, short courses, seminars and institutes. In research it may lead to the provision of expertise to the public, private and non-profit sectors, various types of consultation, and participation in applied research and in implementing research results;
 - (e) 'institutions of higher education' means universities, other educational establishments, centres and structures of higher education, and centres of research and culture associated with any of the above, public or private, that are approved as such either through recognized accreditation systems or by the competent state authorities;
 - (f) 'higher-education teaching personnel' means all those persons in institutions or programmes of higher education who are engaged to teach and/or to undertake scholarship and/or to undertake research and/or to provide educational services to students or to the community at large.

II. Scope

2. This Recommendation applies to all higher-education teaching personnel.

III. Guiding principles

3. The global objectives of international peace, understanding, co-operation and sustainable development pursued by each Member State and by the United Nations require, *inter alia*, education for peace and in the culture of peace, as defined by UNESCO, as well as qualified and cultivated graduates of higher education institutions, capable of serving the community as responsible citizens and undertaking effective scholarship and advanced research and, as a consequence, a corps of talented and highly qualified higher-education teaching personnel.
4. Institutions of higher education, and more particularly universities, are communities of scholars preserving, disseminating and expressing freely their opinions on traditional knowledge and culture, and pursuing new knowledge without constriction by prescribed doctrines. The pursuit of new knowledge and its application lie at the heart of the mandate of such institutions of higher education. In higher education institutions where original research is not required, higher-education teaching personnel should maintain and develop knowledge of their subject through scholarship and improved pedagogical skills.
5. Advances in higher education, scholarship and research depend largely on infrastructure and resources, both human and material, and on the qualifications and expertise of higher-education teaching personnel as well as on their human, pedagogical and technical qualities, underpinned by academic freedom, professional responsibility, collegiality and institutional autonomy.
6. Teaching in higher education is a profession: it is a form of public service that requires of higher education personnel expert knowledge and specialized skills acquired and maintained through rigorous and lifelong study and research; it also calls for a sense of personal and institutional responsibility for the education and welfare of students and of the community at large and for a commitment to high professional standards in scholarship and research.
7. Working conditions for higher-education teaching personnel should be such as will best promote effective teaching, scholarship, research and extension work and enable higher-education teaching personnel to carry out their professional tasks.
8. Organizations which represent higher-education teaching personnel should be considered and recognized as a force which can contribute greatly to educational advancement and which should, therefore, be involved, together with other stakeholders and interested parties, in the determination of higher education policy.
9. Respect should be shown for the diversity of higher education institution systems in each Member State in accordance with its national laws and practices as well as with international standards.

IV. Educational objectives and policies

10. At all appropriate stages of their national planning in general, and of their planning for higher education in particular, Member States should take all necessary measures to ensure that:
 - (a) higher education is directed to human development and to the progress of society;
 - (b) higher education contributes to the achievement of the goals of lifelong learning and to the development of other forms and levels of education;
 - (c) where public funds are appropriated for higher education institutions, such funds are treated as a public investment, subject to effective public accountability;
 - (d) the funding of higher education is treated as a form of public investment the returns on which are, for the most part, necessarily long term, subject to government and public priorities;
 - (e) the justification for public funding is held constantly before public opinion.
11. Higher-education teaching personnel should have access to libraries which have up-to-date collections reflecting diverse sides of an issue, and whose holdings are not subject to censorship or other forms of intellectual interference. They should also have access, without censorship, to international computer systems, satellite programmes and databases required for their teaching, scholarship or research.
12. The publication and dissemination of the research results obtained by higher-education teaching personnel should be encouraged and facilitated with a view to assisting them to acquire the reputation which they merit, as well as with a view to promoting the advancement of science, technology, education and culture generally. To this end, higher-education teaching personnel should be free to publish the results of research and scholarship in books, journals and databases of their own choice and under their own names, provided they are the authors or co-authors of the above scholarly works. The intellectual property of higher-education teaching personnel should benefit from appropriate legal protection, and in particular the protection afforded by national and international copyright law.
13. The interplay of ideas and information among higher-education teaching personnel throughout the world is vital to the healthy development of higher education and research and should be actively promoted. To this end higher-education teaching personnel should be enabled throughout their careers to participate in international gatherings on higher education or research, to travel abroad without political restrictions and to use the Internet or video-conferencing for these purposes.
14. Programmes providing for the broadest exchange of higher-education teaching personnel between institutions, both nationally and internationally, including the organization of symposia, seminars and collaborative projects, and the exchange of educational and scholarly information should be

developed and encouraged. The extension of communications and direct contacts between universities, research institutions and associations as well as among scientists and research workers should be facilitated, as should access by higher-education teaching personnel from other states to open information material in public archives, libraries, research institutes and similar bodies.

15. Member States and higher education institutions should, nevertheless, be conscious of the exodus of higher-education teaching personnel from the developing countries and, in particular, the least developed ones. They should, therefore, encourage aid programmes to the developing countries to help sustain an academic environment which offers satisfactory conditions of work for higher-education teaching personnel in those countries, so that this exodus may be contained and ultimately reversed.
16. Fair, just and reasonable national policies and practices for the recognition of degrees and of credentials for the practice of the higher education profession from other states should be established that are consistent with the UNESCO Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and Qualifications in Higher Education of 1993.

V. Institutional rights, duties and responsibilities

A. Institutional autonomy

17. The proper enjoyment of academic freedom and compliance with the duties and responsibilities listed below require the autonomy of institutions of higher education. Autonomy is that degree of self-governance necessary for effective decision-making by institutions of higher education regarding their academic work, standards, management and related activities consistent with systems of public accountability, especially in respect of funding provided by the state, and respect for academic freedom and human rights. However, the nature of institutional autonomy may differ according to the type of establishment involved.
18. Autonomy is the institutional form of academic freedom and a necessary precondition to guarantee the proper fulfilment of the functions entrusted to higher-education teaching personnel and institutions.
19. Member States are under an obligation to protect higher education institutions from threats to their autonomy coming from any source.
20. Autonomy should not be used by higher education institutions as a pretext to limit the rights of higher-education teaching personnel provided for in this Recommendation or in other international standards set out in the appendix.
21. Self-governance, collegiality and appropriate academic leadership are essential components of meaningful autonomy for institutions of higher education.

B. Institutional accountability

22. In view of the substantial financial investments made, Member States and higher education

institutions should ensure a proper balance between the level of autonomy enjoyed by higher education institutions and their systems of accountability. Higher education institutions should endeavour to open their governance in order to be accountable. They should be accountable for:

- (a) effective communication to the public concerning the nature of their educational mission;
- (b) a commitment to quality and excellence in their teaching, scholarship and research functions, and an obligation to protect and ensure the integrity of their teaching, scholarship and research against intrusions inconsistent with their academic missions;
- (c) effective support of academic freedom and fundamental human rights;
- (d) ensuring high quality education for as many academically qualified individuals as possible subject to the constraints of the resources available to them;
- (e) a commitment to the provision of opportunities for lifelong learning, consistent with the mission of the institution and the resources provided;
- (f) ensuring that students are treated fairly and justly, and without discrimination;
- (g) adopting policies and procedures to ensure the equitable treatment of women and minorities and to eliminate sexual and racial harassment;
- (h) ensuring that higher education personnel are not impeded in their work in the classroom or in their research capacity by violence, intimidation or harassment;
- (i) honest and open accounting;
- (j) efficient use of resources;
- (k) the creation, through the collegial process and/or through negotiation with organizations representing higher-education teaching personnel, consistent with the principles of academic freedom and freedom of speech, of statements or codes of ethics to guide higher education personnel in their teaching, scholarship, research and extension work;
- (l) assistance in the fulfilment of economic, social, cultural and political rights while striving to prevent the use of knowledge, science and technology to the detriment of those rights, or for purposes which run counter to generally accepted academic ethics, human rights and peace;
- (m) ensuring that they address themselves to the contemporary problems facing society; to this end, their curricula, as well as their activities, should respond, where appropriate, to the current and future needs of the local community and of society at large, and they should play an important role in enhancing the labour market opportunities of their graduates;
- (n) encouraging, where possible and appropriate, international academic co-operation which transcends national, regional, political, ethnic and other barriers, striving to prevent the scientific and technological exploitation of

one state by another, and promoting equal partnership of all the academic communities of the world in the pursuit and use of knowledge and the preservation of cultural heritages;

- (o) ensuring up-to-date libraries and access, without censorship, to modern teaching, research and information resources providing information required by higher-education teaching personnel or by students for teaching, scholarship or research;
 - (p) ensuring the facilities and equipment necessary for the mission of the institution and their proper upkeep;
 - (q) ensuring that when engaged in classified research it will not contradict the educational mission and objectives of the institutions and will not run counter to the general objectives of peace, human rights, sustainable development and environment.
23. Systems of institutional accountability should be based on a scientific methodology and be clear, realistic, cost-effective and simple. In their operation they should be fair, just and equitable. Both the methodology and the results should be open.
 24. Higher education institutions, individually or collectively, should design and implement appropriate systems of accountability, including quality assurance mechanisms to achieve the above goals, without harming institutional autonomy or academic freedom. The organizations representing higher-education teaching personnel should participate, where possible, in the planning of such systems. Where state-mandated structures of accountability are established, their procedures should be negotiated, where applicable, with the institutions of higher education concerned and with the organizations representing higher-education teaching personnel.

VI. Rights and freedoms of higher-education teaching personnel

A. Individual rights and freedoms: civil rights, academic freedom, publication rights, and the international exchange of information

25. Access to the higher education academic profession should be based solely on appropriate academic qualifications, competence and experience and be equal for all members of society without any discrimination.
26. Higher-education teaching personnel, like all other groups and individuals, should enjoy those internationally recognized civil, political, social and cultural rights applicable to all citizens. Therefore, all higher-education teaching personnel should enjoy freedom of thought, conscience, religion, expression, assembly and association as well as the right to liberty and security of the person and liberty of movement. They should not be hindered or impeded in exercising their civil rights as citizens, including the right to contribute to social change through

freely expressing their opinion of state policies and of policies affecting higher education. They should not suffer any penalties simply because of the exercise of such rights. Higher-education teaching personnel should not be subject to arbitrary arrest or detention, nor to torture, nor to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. In cases of gross violation of their rights, higher-education teaching personnel should have the right to appeal to the relevant national, regional or international bodies such as the agencies of the United Nations, and organizations representing higher-education teaching personnel should extend full support in such cases.

27. The maintaining of the above international standards should be upheld in the interest of higher education internationally and within the country. To do so, the principle of academic freedom should be scrupulously observed. Higher-education teaching personnel are entitled to the maintaining of academic freedom, that is to say, the right, without constriction by prescribed doctrine, to freedom of teaching and discussion, freedom in carrying out research and disseminating and publishing the results thereof, freedom to express freely their opinion about the institution or system in which they work, freedom from institutional censorship and freedom to participate in professional or representative academic bodies. All higher-education teaching personnel should have the right to fulfil their functions without discrimination of any kind and without fear of repression by the state or any other source. Higher-education teaching personnel can effectively do justice to this principle if the environment in which they operate is conducive, which requires a democratic atmosphere; hence the challenge for all of developing a democratic society.
28. Higher-education teaching personnel have the right to teach without any interference, subject to accepted professional principles including professional responsibility and intellectual rigour with regard to standards and methods of teaching. Higher-education teaching personnel should not be forced to instruct against their own best knowledge and conscience or be forced to use curricula and methods contrary to national and international human rights standards. Higher-education teaching personnel should play a significant role in determining the curriculum.
29. Higher-education teaching personnel have a right to carry out research work without any interference, or any suppression, in accordance with their professional responsibility and subject to nationally and internationally recognized professional principles of intellectual rigour, scientific inquiry and research ethics. They should also have the right to publish and communicate the conclusions of the research of which they are authors or co-authors, as stated in paragraph 12 of this Recommendation.
30. Higher-education teaching personnel have a right to undertake professional activities outside of their employment, particularly those that enhance their professional skills or allow for the application of knowledge to the problems of the

community, provided such activities do not interfere with their primary commitments to their home institutions in accordance with institutional policies and regulations or national laws and practice where they exist.

B. Self-governance and collegiality

31. Higher-education teaching personnel should have the right and opportunity, without discrimination of any kind, according to their abilities, to take part in the governing bodies and to criticize the functioning of higher education institutions, including their own, while respecting the right of other sections of the academic community to participate, and they should also have the right to elect a majority of representatives to academic bodies within the higher education institution.
32. The principles of collegiality include academic freedom, shared responsibility, the policy of participation of all concerned in internal decision-making structures and practices, and the development of consultative mechanisms. Collegial decision-making should encompass decisions regarding the administration and determination of policies of higher education, curricula, research, extension work, the allocation of resources and other related activities, in order to improve academic excellence and quality for the benefit of society at large.

VII. Duties and responsibilities of higher-education teaching personnel

33. Higher-education teaching personnel should recognize that the exercise of rights carries with it special duties and responsibilities, including the obligation to respect the academic freedom of other members of the academic community and to ensure the fair discussion of contrary views. Academic freedom carries with it the duty to use that freedom in a manner consistent with the scholarly obligation to base research on an honest search for truth. Teaching, research and scholarship should be conducted in full accordance with ethical and professional standards and should, where appropriate, respond to contemporary problems facing society as well as preserve the historical and cultural heritage of the world.
34. In particular, the individual duties of higher-education teaching personnel inherent in their academic freedom are:
 - (a) to teach students effectively within the means provided by the institution and the state, to be fair and equitable to male and female students and treat those of all races and religions, as well as those with disabilities, equally, to encourage the free exchange of ideas between themselves and their students, and to be available to them for guidance in their studies. Higher-education teaching personnel should ensure, where necessary, that the minimum content defined in the syllabus for each subject is covered;

- (b) to conduct scholarly research and to disseminate the results of such research or, where original research is not required, to maintain and develop their knowledge of their subject through study and research, and through the development of teaching methodology to improve their pedagogical skills;
 - (c) to base their research and scholarship on an honest search for knowledge with due respect for evidence, impartial reasoning and honesty in reporting;
 - (d) to observe the ethics of research involving humans, animals, the heritage or the environment;
 - (e) to respect and to acknowledge the scholarly work of academic colleagues and students and, in particular, to ensure that authorship of published works includes all who have materially contributed to, and share responsibility for, the contents of a publication;
 - (f) to refrain from using new information, concepts or data that were originally obtained as a result of access to confidential manuscripts or applications for funds for research or training that may have been seen as the result of processes such as peer review, unless the author has given permission;
 - (g) to ensure that research is conducted according to the laws and regulations of the state in which the research is carried out, that it does not violate international codes of human rights, and that the results of the research and the data on which it is based are effectively made available to scholars and researchers in the host institution, except where this might place respondents in peril or where anonymity has been guaranteed;
 - (h) to avoid conflicts of interest and to resolve them through appropriate disclosure and full consultation with the higher education institution employing them, so that they have the approval of the aforesaid institution;
 - (i) to handle honestly all funds entrusted to their care for higher education institutions for research or for other professional or scientific bodies;
 - (j) to be fair and impartial when presenting a professional appraisal of academic colleagues and students;
 - (k) to be conscious of a responsibility, when speaking or writing outside scholarly channels on matters which are not related to their professional expertise, to avoid misleading the public on the nature of their professional expertise;
 - (l) to undertake such appropriate duties as are required for the collegial governance of institutions of higher education and of professional bodies.
35. Higher-education teaching personnel should seek to achieve the highest possible standards in their professional work, since their status largely depends on themselves and the quality of their achievements.
36. Higher-education teaching personnel should contribute to the public accountability of higher education institutions without, however, forfeiting the degree of institutional autonomy necessary for their work, for their professional freedom and for the advancement of knowledge.

VIII. Preparation for the profession

37. Policies governing access to preparation for a career in higher education rest on the need to provide society with an adequate supply of higher-education teaching personnel who possess the necessary ethical, intellectual and teaching qualities and who have the required professional knowledge and skills.
38. All aspects of the preparation of higher-education teaching personnel should be free from any form of discrimination.
39. Amongst candidates seeking to prepare for a career in higher education, women and members of minorities with equal academic qualifications and experience should be given equal opportunities and treatment.

IX. Terms and conditions of employment

A. Entry into the academic profession

40. The employers of higher-education teaching personnel should establish such terms and conditions of employment as will be most conducive for effective teaching and/or research and/or scholarship and/or extension work and will be fair and free from discrimination of any kind.
41. Temporary measures aimed at accelerating de facto equality for disadvantaged members of the academic community should not be considered discriminatory, provided that these measures are discontinued when the objectives of equality of opportunity and treatment have been achieved and systems are in place to ensure the continuance of equality of opportunity and treatment.
42. A probationary period on initial entry to teaching and research in higher education is recognized as the opportunity for the encouragement and helpful initiation of the entrant and for the establishment and maintenance of proper professional standards, as well as for the individual's own development of his/her teaching and research proficiency. The normal duration of probation should be known in advance and the conditions for its satisfactory completion should be strictly related to professional competence. If such candidates fail to complete their probation satisfactorily, they should have the right to know the reasons and to receive this information sufficiently in advance of the end of the probationary period to give them a reasonable opportunity to improve their performance. They should also have the right to appeal.

43. Higher-education teaching personnel should enjoy:
- (a) a just and open system of career development including fair procedures for appointment, tenure where applicable, promotion, dismissal, and other related matters;
 - (b) an effective, fair and just system of labour relations within the institution, consistent with the international standards set out in the appendix.
44. There should be provisions to allow for solidarity with other institutions of higher education and with their higher-education teaching personnel when they are subject to persecution. Such solidarity may be material as well as moral and should, where possible, include refuge and employment or education for victims of persecution.

B. Security of employment

45. Tenure or its functional equivalent, where applicable, constitutes one of the major procedural safeguards of academic freedom and against arbitrary decisions. It also encourages individual responsibility and the retention of talented higher-education teaching personnel.
46. Security of employment in the profession, including tenure or its functional equivalent, where applicable, should be safeguarded as it is essential to the interests of higher education as well as those of higher-education teaching personnel. It ensures that higher-education teaching personnel who secure continuing employment following rigorous evaluation can only be dismissed on professional grounds and in accordance with due process. They may also be released for *bona fide* financial reasons, provided that all the financial accounts are open to public inspection, that the institution has taken all reasonable alternative steps to prevent termination of employment, and that there are legal safeguards against bias in any termination of employment procedure. Tenure or its functional equivalent, where applicable, should be safeguarded as far as possible even when changes in the organization of or within a higher education institution or system are made, and should be granted, after a reasonable period of probation, to those who meet stated objective criteria in teaching, and/or scholarship, and/or research to the satisfaction of an academic body, and/or extension work to the satisfaction of the institution of higher education.

C. Appraisal

47. Higher education institutions should ensure that:
- (a) evaluation and assessment of the work of higher-education teaching personnel are an integral part of the teaching, learning and research process, and that their major function is the development of individuals in accordance with their interests and capacities;
 - (b) evaluation is based only on academic criteria of competence in research, teaching and other

- academic or professional duties as interpreted by academic peers;
- (c) evaluation procedures take due account of the difficulty inherent in measuring personal capacity, which seldom manifests itself in a constant and unfluctuating manner;
- (d) where evaluation involves any kind of direct assessment of the work of higher-education teaching personnel, by students and/or fellow colleagues and/or administrators, such assessment is objective and the criteria and the results are made known to the individual(s) concerned;
- (e) the results of appraisal of higher-education teaching personnel are also taken into account when establishing the staffing of the institution and considering the renewal of employment;
- (f) higher-education teaching personnel have the right to appeal to an impartial body against assessments which they deem to be unjustified.

D. Discipline and dismissal

48. No member of the academic community should be subject to discipline, including dismissal, except for just and sufficient cause demonstrable before an independent third-party hearing of peers, and/or before an impartial body such as arbitrators or the courts.
49. All members of higher-education teaching personnel should enjoy equitable safeguards at each stage of any disciplinary procedure, including dismissal, in accordance with the international standards set out in the appendix.
50. Dismissal as a disciplinary measure should only be for just and sufficient cause related to professional conduct, for example: persistent neglect of duties, gross incompetence, fabrication or falsification of research results, serious financial irregularities, sexual or other misconduct with students, colleagues, or other members of the academic community or serious threats thereof, or corruption of the educational process such as by falsifying grades, diplomas or degrees in return for money, sexual or other favours or by demanding sexual, financial or other material favours from subordinate employees or colleagues in return for continuing employment.
51. Individuals should have the right to appeal against the decision to dismiss them before independent, external bodies such as arbitrators or the courts, with final and binding powers.

E. Negotiation of terms and conditions of employment

52. Higher-education teaching personnel should enjoy the right to freedom of association, and this right should be effectively promoted. Collective bargaining or an equivalent procedure should be promoted in accordance with the standards of the International Labour Organization (ILO) set out in the appendix.

53. Salaries, working conditions and all matters related to the terms and conditions of employment of higher-education teaching personnel should be determined through a voluntary process of negotiation between organizations representing higher-education teaching personnel and the employers of higher-education teaching personnel, except where other equivalent procedures are provided that are consistent with international standards.
54. Appropriate machinery, consistent with national laws and international standards, should be established by statute or by agreement whereby the right of higher-education teaching personnel to negotiate through their organizations with their employers, whether public or private, is assured. Such legal and statutory rights should be enforceable through an impartial process without undue delay.
55. If the process established for these purposes is exhausted or if there is a breakdown in negotiations between the parties, organizations of higher-education teaching personnel should have the right to take such other steps as are normally open to other organizations in the defence of their legitimate interests.
56. Higher-education teaching personnel should have access to a fair grievance and arbitration procedure, or the equivalent, for the settlement of disputes with their employers arising out of terms and conditions of employment.
- F. Salaries, workload, social security benefits, health and safety*
57. All financially feasible measures should be taken to provide higher-education teaching personnel with remuneration such that they can devote themselves satisfactorily to their duties and allocate the necessary amount of time for the continuing training and periodic renewal of knowledge and skills that are essential at this level of teaching.
58. The salaries of higher-education teaching personnel should:
- reflect the importance to society of higher education and hence the importance of higher-education teaching personnel as well as the different responsibilities which fall to them from the time of their entry into the profession;
 - be at least comparable to salaries paid in other occupations requiring similar or equivalent qualifications;
 - provide higher-education teaching personnel with the means to ensure a reasonable standard of living for themselves and their families, as well as to invest in further education or in the pursuit of cultural or scientific activities, thus enhancing their professional qualifications;
 - take account of the fact that certain posts require higher qualifications and experience and carry greater responsibilities;
 - be paid regularly and on time;
- be reviewed periodically to take into account such factors as a rise in the cost of living, increased productivity leading to higher standards of living, or a general upward movement in wage or salary levels.
59. Salary differentials should be based on objective criteria.
60. Higher-education teaching personnel should be paid on the basis of salary scales established in agreement with organizations representing higher-education teaching personnel, except where other equivalent procedures consistent with international standards are provided. During a probationary period or if employed on a temporary basis qualified higher-education teaching personnel should not be paid on a lower scale than that laid down for established higher-education teaching personnel at the same level.
61. A fair and impartial merit-rating system could be a means of enhancing quality assurance and quality control. Where introduced and applied for purposes of salary determination it should involve prior consultation with organizations representing higher-education teaching personnel.
62. The workload of higher-education teaching personnel should be fair and equitable, should permit such personnel to carry out effectively their duties and responsibilities to their students as well as their obligations in regard to scholarship, research and/or academic administration, should provide due consideration in terms of salary for those who are required to teach beyond their regular workload, and should be negotiated with the organizations representing higher-education teaching personnel, except where other equivalent procedures consistent with international standards are provided.
63. Higher-education teaching personnel should be provided with a work environment that does not have a negative impact on or affect their health and safety and they should be protected by social security measures, including those concerning sickness and disability and pension entitlements, and measures for the protection of health and safety in respect of all contingencies included in the conventions and recommendations of ILO. The standards should be at least as favourable as those set out in the relevant conventions and recommendations of ILO. Social security benefits for higher-education teaching personnel should be granted as a matter of right.
64. The pension rights earned by higher-education teaching personnel should be transferable nationally and internationally, subject to national, bilateral and multilateral taxation laws and agreements, should the individual transfer to employment with another institution of higher education. Organizations representing higher-education teaching personnel should have the right to choose representatives to take part in the governance and administration of pension plans designed for higher-education teaching personnel where applicable, particularly those which are private and contributory.

G. Study and research leave and annual holidays

65. Higher-education teaching personnel should be granted study and research leave, such as sabbatical leave, on full or partial pay, where applicable, at regular intervals.
66. The period of study or research leave should be counted as service for seniority and pension purposes, subject to the provisions of the pension plan.
67. Higher-education teaching personnel should be granted occasional leave with full or partial pay to enable them to participate in professional activities.
68. Leave granted to higher-education teaching personnel within the framework of bilateral and multilateral cultural and scientific exchanges or technical assistance programmes abroad should be considered as service, and their seniority and eligibility for promotion and pension rights in their home institutions should be safeguarded. In addition, special arrangements should be made to cover their extra expenses.
69. Higher-education teaching personnel should enjoy the right to adequate annual vacation with full pay.

H. Terms and conditions of employment of women higher-education teaching personnel

70. All necessary measures should be taken to promote equality of opportunity and treatment of women higher-education teaching personnel in order to ensure, on the basis of equality between men and women, the rights recognized by the international standards set out in the appendix.

I. Terms and conditions of employment of disabled higher-education teaching personnel

71. All necessary measures should be taken to ensure that the standards set with regard to the conditions of work of higher-education teaching personnel who are disabled are, as a minimum, consistent with the relevant provisions of the international standards set out in the appendix.

J. Terms and conditions of employment of part-time higher-education teaching personnel

72. The value of the service provided by qualified part-time higher-education teaching personnel should be recognized. Higher-education teaching personnel employed regularly on a part-time basis should:
 - (a) receive proportionately the same remuneration as higher-education teaching personnel employed on a full-time basis and

enjoy equivalent basic conditions of employment;

- (b) benefit from conditions equivalent to those of higher-education teaching personnel employed on a full-time basis as regards holidays with pay, sick leave and maternity leave; the relevant pecuniary entitlements should be determined in proportion to hours of work or earnings;
- (c) be entitled to adequate and appropriate social security protection, including, where applicable, coverage under employers' pension schemes.

X. Utilization and implementation

73. Member States and higher education institutions should take all feasible steps to extend and complement their own action in respect of the status of higher-education teaching personnel by encouraging co-operation with and among all national and international governmental and non-governmental organizations whose activities fall within the scope and objectives of this Recommendation.
74. Member States and higher education institutions should take all feasible steps to apply the provisions spelled out above to give effect, within their respective territories, to the principles set forth in this Recommendation.
75. The Director-General will prepare a comprehensive report on the world situation with regard to academic freedom and to respect for the human rights of higher-education teaching personnel on the basis of the information supplied by Member States and of any other information supported by reliable evidence which he/she may have gathered by such methods as he/she may deem appropriate.
76. In the case of a higher education institution in the territory of a state not under the direct or indirect authority of that state but under separate and independent authorities, the relevant authorities should transmit the text of this Recommendation to institutions, so that such institutions can put its provisions into practice.

XI. Final provision

77. Where higher-education teaching personnel enjoy a status which is, in certain respects, more favourable than that provided for in this Recommendation, the terms of this Recommendation should not be invoked to diminish the status already recognized.

Appendix

United Nations

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948;
- Declaration concerning the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples, 1965;

- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 1965;
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 1966;

- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Protocol thereto, 1966;
- Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subject to Torture and Other Cruel and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 1975;
- Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons, 1975;
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 1979;
- Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, 1981;
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 1984.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

- Convention against Discrimination in Education, 1960, and Protocol thereto, 1962;
- Recommendation against Discrimination in Education, 1960;
- Recommendation on Education for International Understanding and Co-operation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, 1974;
- Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers, 1974;
- Revised Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education, 1974;
- Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice, 1978;
- Convention on Technical/Vocational Education, 1989;
- Recommendation on the Recognition of Studies and Qualifications in Higher Education, 1993.

International Labour Organization

- Convention No. 87: Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, 1948;
- Convention No. 95: Protection of Wages Convention, 1949;
- Convention No. 98: Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949;
- Convention No. 100: Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951;
- Convention No. 102: Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952;
- Convention No. 103: Maternity Protection Convention (Revised), 1952;
- Recommendation No. 95: Maternity Protection Recommendation, 1952;
- Convention No. 111: Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958;

- Convention No. 118: Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention, 1962;
- Convention No. 121: Employment Injury Benefits Convention, 1964 [Schedule I amended in 1980];
- Convention No. 128: Invalidity, Old-Age and Survivors Benefit Convention, 1967;
- Recommendation No. 131: Invalidity, Old-Age and Survivors Benefit Recommendation, 1967;
- Convention No. 130: Medical Care and Sickness Benefit Convention, 1969;
- Convention No. 132: Holidays with Pay Convention (Revised), 1970;
- Convention No. 135: Workers' Representatives Convention, 1971;
- Recommendation No. 143: Workers' Representatives Recommendation, 1971;
- Convention No. 140: Paid Educational Leave Convention, 1974;
- Recommendation No. 148: Paid Educational Leave Recommendation, 1974;
- Convention No. 151: Labour Relations (Public Service Convention), 1978;
- Recommendation No. 159: Labour Relations (Public Service) Recommendation, 1978;
- Recommendation No. 162: Older Workers Recommendation, 1980;
- Convention No. 154: Collective Bargaining Convention, 1981;
- Recommendation No. 163: Collective Bargaining Recommendation, 1981;
- Convention No. 156: Workers with Family Responsibilities Convention, 1981;
- Recommendation No. 165: Workers with Family Responsibilities Recommendation, 1981;
- Convention No. 158: Termination of Employment Convention, 1982;
- Convention No. 159: Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Disabled Persons) Convention, 1983;
- Recommendation No. 168: Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Disabled Persons) Recommendation, 1983.

Other

- Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers adopted by the Special Intergovernmental Conference on the Status of Teachers (convened by UNESCO in cooperation with ILO), Paris, 5 October 1966;
- UNESCO, Universal Copyright Convention, 1952, revised 1971;
- World Intellectual Property Organization, Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, Paris Act, 1971, amended in 1979.

12 **Revision of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED)¹**

The General Conference,

Recalling 28 C/Resolution 1.11 concerning the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED),

Noting with satisfaction that in accordance with this resolution a Task Force was established in December 1995, composed of experts from Ethiopia, France and the Netherlands, and of representatives of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT), and UNESCO, and that a Reference Group of Experts drawn from all of UNESCO's geographical regions was also established,

Further noting that the ISCED document prepared by the Task Force was submitted for review at two meetings of the Reference Group as well as at a meeting of experts convened on the occasion of the 45th session of the International Conference on Education (Geneva, October 1996), and that the comments and suggestions made at these meetings have been taken into account in preparing the revised version of ISCED,

Taking note of 151 EX/Decision 3.2.4,

1. *Approves* the revised version of ISCED, contained in Annex II to document 151 EX/8, as ISCED 1997;

2. *Invites* the Director-General:

- (a) to extend the mandate of the Task Force beyond the 29th session of the General Conference and to expand it to include other conceptual and methodological aspects which are related and relevant to levels of education and fields of study;
- (b) to prepare an operational manual aimed at providing guidance to users on the interpretation and practical application of ISCED 1997, differentiating between the different studies and levels of education attained by the population, with a view to ensuring its uniform application;
- (c) to consider the implications of ISCED 1997 for the 1978 Revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Educational Statistics;
- (d) to continue to revise periodically and to update ISCED 1997 and its practical application, so as to ensure that it is consistent with developments in education and training and meets the needs of education policies, and to inform the General Conference regularly of the changes that have taken place in that classification;
- (e) to request Member States to provide UNESCO with a description of their education systems in accordance with ISCED and to bring it regularly up to date;
- (f) to report on the results of the work accomplished to the Executive Board at its 154th session.

13 **Major Programme II: The sciences in the service of development¹**

The General Conference

1. *Authorizes* the Director-General to implement this major programme in accordance with the main lines of emphasis set out in document 29 C/5;

2. *Invites* the Director-General, in particular:

- A. Under Programme II.1, 'Advancement, transfer and sharing of knowledge in the exact and natural sciences', which aims at strengthening national capacities in university-level teaching and research in the basic sciences and engineering disciplines; at reinforcing regional and international co-operation in this regard; and at fostering environmentally compatible technologies and the use of renewable sources of energy, particularly solar energy:
 - (a) to contribute to the improvement and strengthening of university teaching in the basic and engineering sciences, in conjunction with relevant university networks and competent non-governmental organizations, giving special attention to women's access to engineering education;

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission II at the 26th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission III at the 26th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

- (b) to reinforce national and regional research capacities in mathematics, physics, chemistry and related interdisciplinary fields by stepping up co-operation with competent international and regional networks and centres, and national specialized scientific bodies and institutions;
 - (c) to reinforce national and regional research capacities in priority areas of biological sciences and biotechnologies, in co-operation with competent non-governmental organizations and the relevant regional and international networks and centres;
 - (d) to promote the wider dissemination and transfer of scientific and technical knowledge at international, regional and national levels, paying due attention to raising public awareness about scientific progress in developing countries;
 - (e) to enhance the contribution of science and technology to the development of societies in the twenty-first century, in particular by convening a World Science Conference in 1999 to strengthen countries' commitment to scientific and technological research and development in the service of societal progress;
 - (f) to strengthen co-operation between university and industry in the engineering sciences, and promote the adaptation of engineering education and research to industrial needs through the UNISPAR programme;
 - (g) to co-operate with Member States and funding sources in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, giving special attention to the development of a global renewable energy education and training programme;
 - (h) to promote, in co-operation with competent international and national non-governmental organizations, greater use of renewable energies for offering access to learning opportunities to the 'unreached' and improving living conditions in rural and remote areas;
 - (i) to improve the access of women to scientific and technological education, training and careers;
 - (j) to support regional networks and centres for the promotion of renewable energies;
- B. Under Programme II.2, 'Advancement, transfer and sharing of knowledge in the social and human sciences', whose aim is to strengthen national capacities and encourage regional and international co-operation in teaching, training and research in the social and human sciences and the collection and dissemination of information and documentation in this area:
- (a) to help improve university teaching and research in the social and human science core disciplines and in a certain number of interdisciplinary fields, primarily by means of the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme;
 - (b) to strengthen capacity-building in research and policy formulation in the various fields covered by the Management of Social Transformations (MOST) programme;
 - (c) to foster regional and international co-operation by collaborating with both international and regional non-governmental organizations and the networks that are active in the fields of social and human science research, advanced training, information and documentation;
 - (d) to participate in the transfer and sharing of information on the social and human sciences, primarily by continuing to develop the DARE data bank and by publishing the first issue of the World Social Science Report, which will be a major contribution to the World Science Conference;
- C. Under Programme II.3, 'Philosophy and ethics', which aims at stimulating international reflection on the ethical implications of the transformations contemporary societies are going through, especially those associated with progress in science and technology, and at promoting philosophy education in support of human and civic values:
- (a) to continue efforts to promote the role of philosophy in the analysis of contemporary processes, including globalization, and in the quest for a universal substratum of values; and to foster exchanges of views between intellectuals representing different cultures and spheres of knowledge, especially by means of co-operation with non-governmental organizations working in the field of philosophy and the human sciences;
 - (b) to promote philosophy education as a part of ethical education and as a tool for democratic apprenticeship, in particular within the framework of the project 'Philosophy and democracy in the world';

- (c) to pursue the work of the International Bioethics Committee in order to provide for follow-up action on the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights and extend international reflection to new concerns related to the life sciences;
 - (d) to promote ethical, multidisciplinary and multicultural reflection on a number of situations that might become a risk to society as a result of advances in science and technology, by setting up the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology, in the light of the recommendations of the Executive Board (29 C/6, para. 26);
- D. Under Programme II.4, 'Environmental sciences and sustainable development', which is intended to foster the development of endogenous capacities in environmental sciences as well as the advancement, sharing and transfer of scientific knowledge for sustainable socio-economic development and environmental protection:
- (a) to foster greater co-operation and cohesion among the activities undertaken under the five intergovernmental scientific programmes (IGCP, IHP, IOC, MAB and MOST), as well as under the transdisciplinary project 'Educating for a sustainable future', in order to improve the quality and coherence of their contribution to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the United Nations conventions related to the environment and sustainable development;
 - (b) to continue to reinforce co-operation with the organizations of the United Nations system and the competent non-governmental organizations involved in the follow-up of Agenda 21, with a view to improving complementarity of action;

Under the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP):

- (c) to increase regional and international co-operation in research and capacity-building in the basic and applied geosciences;
- (d) to promote the application of modern geo-information handling systems to mineral resource development and management, and of binary methodologies to the development and management of vulnerable environments such as coastal zones and cities;
- (e) to help to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters in hazard-prone areas and to enhance preparedness in this regard at the national and local levels through relevant education, training and information activities;

Under the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme:

- (f) to strengthen MAB-related activities aimed at combating desertification and improving agricultural productivity in arid and semi-arid regions;
- (g) to contribute to the implementation of the Seville Strategy by promoting sound conservation policies and the judicious use of natural resources and ecosystems, paying special attention to ecological integrity and socio-economic progress;
- (h) to support collaborative research programmes aimed at monitoring and promoting biological diversity in land and coastal areas;
- (i) to support human and institutional capacity-building, to foster the dissemination of scientific information and knowledge through innovative means, and to promote interdisciplinary education and training, in particular through the UNESCO-Cousteau Ecotechnics Programme;

Under the International Hydrological Programme (IHP):

- (j) to contribute to the development of national capacities in water resources management, the wider sharing of appropriate knowledge, information and technology and the promotion of public awareness of water-related issues;
- (k) to pursue international and regional co-operation in the implementation of research projects focusing on hydrological processes and sustainable water resources management practices in vulnerable environments;
- (l) to develop strategies for the management and rational use of scarce freshwater resources and implement a water resources development programme in sub-Saharan Africa;

- (m) to contribute to the development of methodologies for analysing water resources management issues in situations of conflict among users; and to study the cultural dimensions of water resources management in different geocultural zones;

Within the framework of the project 'Environment and development in coastal regions and in small islands':

- (n) to pursue interdisciplinary research through pilot project activities addressing critical issues for the sustainable development of coastal regions and small islands, paying particular attention to achieving an appropriate balance between scientific, technical, sociocultural, educational and communication dimensions;
- (o) to promote public awareness and capacity-building in transdisciplinary areas relevant to integrated coastal management, in particular through an interregional network of UNESCO Chairs;
- (p) to elaborate a set of wise practices for the sustainable development of coastal regions and small islands on the basis of a critical assessment of traditional practices and scientific knowledge;

Under the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC):

- (q) to pursue the assessment and reduction of scientific uncertainties relating to oceans and coastal areas, and to strengthen ocean data exchange and information services;
 - (r) to strengthen the implementation of IOC regional programmes focusing on assessment of the effects of human activity and pollution on the marine environment;
 - (s) to contribute to national capacity-building in marine research and systematic ocean observation, and to promote public awareness and educational programmes on the role of the oceans;
 - (t) to draw up a comprehensive strategy for the sustainable integrated development of the coastal environment of the African continent, in particular by convening a pan-African conference on sustainable integrated coastal zone management;
 - (u) to promote, within the framework of the International Year of the Ocean (1998), worldwide awareness of the importance of the oceans among decision-makers, young people and the general public as well as increased international and national commitment to addressing ocean issues;
- E. Under Programme II.5, 'Social and human sciences and social development', which aims to encourage the application of the findings of social science research to improve the formulation of social development policies and to increase the capacity of local communities, and particularly of young people, to take an active part in fighting poverty and exclusion and in promoting development and democratic governance:
- (a) to consolidate, within the MOST programme, existing projects and networks in three areas: the management of multicultural and multi-ethnic societies, the governance of cities, and coping with global-local linkages, placing more emphasis on matters involving population, migration, gender and youth issues in urban areas, and poverty and exclusion;
 - (b) to continue developing the MOST programme's electronic information and communication service and to encourage better transfer of scientific knowledge to policy-makers and the public at large;
 - (c) to develop, as part of the MOST clearing house, a database on best practice in the fight against poverty and exclusion, while supporting the identification and development of complementary social measures to ensure the long-term viability of programmes against poverty, particularly in co-operation with microfinance institutions;
 - (d) to reinforce actions and activities to combat poverty in rural areas, especially in Africa and in the least developed countries, by providing women with the resources to carry out integrated development projects at the community level, by encouraging women's groups in the participating countries to send their leaders for training at the regional level for the purpose of projects aimed at helping rural women meet their own needs, and by providing on-site follow-up to help consolidate the skills thus acquired;

Under the project on Cities: Management of social transformations and the environment:

- (e) to pursue the implementation of ongoing pilot projects focused on simultaneously improving the urban environment and living conditions and to develop a series of complementary activities on urban development and freshwater resources and the revitalization of inner cities;

Under the subprogramme on youth and social development:

- (f) to pursue the implementation of the project Rounding the Cape: Tuning into Youth on the Eve of the 21st Century by providing support for regional, national and local initiatives - including the organization of youth forums - intended to promote dialogue with and among young people;
- (g) to continue establishing an international youth information exchange service, in particular by consolidating existing INFOYOUTH networks and helping to establish new structures making use, where possible, of the new information and communication technologies;
- (h) to contribute to the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, by offering intellectual, technical and financial assistance for innovative projects designed and carried out by young people and likely, in particular, to enable them to play a greater part in combating exclusion and marginalization, and in education, cultural and sports activities, communication and the promotion of tolerance;
- (i) to promote Sport for All by supporting initiatives to facilitate access to physical education and sport for groups of young people usually excluded from such activity, while highlighting the ethical value of sport.

14 World Solar Programme 1996-2005¹

The General Conference,

Recalling that the World Solar Summit held in Harare (Zimbabwe) in September 1996 adopted a Declaration on Solar Energy and Sustainable Development and approved the preparation of a World Solar Programme 1996-2005 aimed at improving people's quality of life, notably in the rural areas of developing countries,

Recalling also

- (a) 150 EX/Decision 5.1, paragraph 36 (Major Programme II), which considered the follow-up to the World Solar Summit as a high priority for UNESCO, and the conclusions of Audience Africa concerning renewable sources of energy as an important facet of development,
- (b) the recommendations of the High-Level Expert Meeting on Africa (HEMA) held in Harare in March 1995, on the implementation of the African solar projects to the amount of US \$550 million for 1996-2005,

Taking into account the mission assigned to UNESCO as a lead agency within the framework of the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa, coupled with the commitment of African nations to determine their own destiny,

Considering the need to put in place all the mechanisms essential for achieving the goals set out by the World Solar Summit,

Noting with appreciation the support shown and commitments made so far by certain donor Member States,

1. *Expresses appreciation* to the Director-General of UNESCO for his efforts in implementing the World Solar Summit Process;
2. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Heads of State and Government who have agreed to serve on the World Solar Commission and especially to its Chairman, H.E. Dr Robert G. Mugabe, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe;
3. *Calls upon* all UNESCO Member States to contribute to the success of the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005;

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission III at the 26th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

4. *Confirms* the emphasis placed by the Executive Board, in its Recommendations on the Draft Programme and Budget for 1998-1999 (29 C/6), on the priority nature of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, and particularly the implementation of the global renewable energy education and training programme;
5. *Invites* the Director-General:
 - (a) to undertake further consultations with the World Solar Commission, Member States and interested partner organizations with a view to defining the steps, ways and means of transforming the World Solar Programme into an interdisciplinary undertaking in the framework of document 30 C/5;
 - (b) to mobilize extrabudgetary resources and technical assistance for the effective implementation of the World Solar Programme;
 - (c) to continue to sensitize all Member States and international financial institutions, both public and private, to the strategic importance of this programme for achieving world developmental needs.

15 **Establishment of an International Centre for Human Sciences at Byblos¹**

The General Conference,

Recalling decision 4.5.3, concerning a draft agreement between the Lebanese Government and UNESCO on the establishment of an International Centre for the Humanities and Development at Byblos, adopted by the Executive Board at its 93rd session, and the signing of the agreement in November 1973,

Further to 151 EX/Decision 9.10, in which the Executive Board recommended to the General Conference that it authorize the Director-General to sign the new agreement set out in the annex to document 151 EX/39,

Having examined document 29 C/16 and the draft agreement annexed thereto concerning the establishment by Lebanon of an International Centre for Human Sciences at Byblos, whereby UNESCO undertakes to co-operate with the Lebanese Government for the duration of the agreement in order to secure the operation of the Centre,

Authorizes the Director-General to conclude this new agreement with the Government of Lebanon.

16 **Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights²**

The General Conference,

Recalling that the Preamble of UNESCO's Constitution refers to 'the democratic principles of the dignity, equality and mutual respect of men', rejects any 'doctrine of the inequality of men and races', stipulates 'that the wide diffusion of culture, and the education of humanity for justice and liberty and peace are indispensable to the dignity of men and constitute a sacred duty which all the nations must fulfil in a spirit of mutual assistance and concern', proclaims that 'peace must be founded upon the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind', and states that the Organization seeks to advance, 'through the educational and scientific and cultural relations of the peoples of the world, the objectives of international peace and of the common welfare of mankind for which the United Nations Organization was established and which its Charter proclaims',

Solemnly recalling its attachment to the universal principles of human rights, affirmed in particular in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948 and in the two International United Nations Covenants on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and on Civil and Political Rights of 16 December 1966, in the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 9 December 1948, the International United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination of 21 December 1965, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons of 20 December 1971, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Disabled

1 Resolution adopted on the report of Commission III at the 26th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

2 Adopted on the report of Commission III at the 26th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

Persons of 9 December 1975, the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women of 18 December 1979, the United Nations Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power of 29 November 1985, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of 20 November 1989, the United Nations Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities of 20 December 1993, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction of 16 December 1971, the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education of 14 December 1960, the UNESCO Declaration of the Principles of International Cultural Co-operation of 4 November 1966, the UNESCO Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers of 20 November 1974, the UNESCO Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice of 27 November 1978, the ILO Convention (No. 111) concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation of 25 June 1958 and the ILO Convention (No. 169) concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries of 27 June 1989,

Bearing in mind, and without prejudice to, the international instruments which could have a bearing on the applications of genetics in the field of intellectual property, *inter alia* the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works of 9 September 1886 and the UNESCO Universal Copyright Convention of 6 September 1952, as last revised at Paris on 24 July 1971, the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property of 20 March 1883, as last revised at Stockholm on 14 July 1967, the Budapest Treaty of the WIPO on International Recognition of the Deposit of Micro-organisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedures of 28 April 1977, and the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Agreement (TRIPs) annexed to the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization, which entered into force on 1 January 1995,

Bearing in mind also the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity of 5 June 1992 and *emphasizing* in that connection that the recognition of the genetic diversity of humanity must not give rise to any interpretation of a social or political nature which could call into question 'the inherent dignity and (...) the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family', in accordance with the Preamble to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Recalling 22 C/Resolution 13.1, 23 C/Resolution 13.1, 24 C/Resolution 13.1, 25 C/Resolutions 5.2 and 7.3, 27 C/Resolution 5.15 and 28 C/Resolutions 0.12, 2.1 and 2.2, urging UNESCO to promote and develop ethical studies, and the actions arising out of them, on the consequences of scientific and technological progress in the fields of biology and genetics, within the framework of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recognizing that research on the human genome and the resulting applications open up vast prospects for progress in improving the health of individuals and of humankind as a whole, but *emphasizing* that such research should fully respect human dignity, freedom and human rights, as well as the prohibition of all forms of discrimination based on genetic characteristics,

Proclaims the principles that follow and *adopts* the present Declaration.

A. Human dignity and the human genome

Article 1

The human genome underlies the fundamental unity of all members of the human family, as well as the recognition of their inherent dignity and diversity. In a symbolic sense, it is the heritage of humanity.

Article 2

- (a) Everyone has a right to respect for their dignity and for their rights regardless of their genetic characteristics.
- (b) That dignity makes it imperative not to reduce individuals to their genetic characteristics and to respect their uniqueness and diversity.

Article 3

The human genome, which by its nature evolves, is subject to mutations. It contains potentialities that are expressed differently according to each individual's natural and social environment, including the individual's state of health, living conditions, nutrition and education.

Article 4

The human genome in its natural state shall not give rise to financial gains.

B. Rights of the persons concerned

Article 5

- (a) Research, treatment or diagnosis affecting an individual's genome shall be undertaken only after rigorous and prior assessment of the potential risks and benefits pertaining thereto and in accordance with any other requirement of national law.
- (b) In all cases, the prior, free and informed consent of the person concerned shall be obtained. If the latter is not in a position to consent, consent or authorization shall be obtained in the manner prescribed by law, guided by the person's best interest.
- (c) The right of each individual to decide whether or not to be informed of the results of genetic examination and the resulting consequences should be respected.
- (d) In the case of research, protocols shall, in addition, be submitted for prior review in accordance with relevant national and international research standards or guidelines.
- (e) If according to the law a person does not have the capacity to consent, research affecting his or her genome may only be carried out for his or her direct health benefit, subject to the authorization and the protective conditions prescribed by law. Research which does not have an expected direct health benefit may only be undertaken by way of exception, with the utmost restraint, exposing the person only to a minimal risk and minimal burden and if the research is intended to contribute to the health benefit of other persons in the same age category or with the same genetic condition, subject to the conditions prescribed by law, and provided such research is compatible with the protection of the individual's human rights.

Article 6

No one shall be subjected to discrimination based on genetic characteristics that is intended to infringe or has the effect of infringing human rights, fundamental freedoms and human dignity.

Article 7

Genetic data associated with an identifiable person and stored or processed for the purposes of research or any other purpose must be held confidential in the conditions set by law.

Article 8

Every individual shall have the right, according to international and national law, to just reparation for any damage sustained as a direct and determining result of an intervention affecting his or her genome.

Article 9

In order to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, limitations to the principles of consent and confidentiality may only be prescribed by law, for compelling reasons within the bounds of public international law and the international law of human rights.

C. Research on the human genome

Article 10

No research or research applications concerning the human genome, in particular in the fields of biology, genetics and medicine, should prevail over respect for the human rights, fundamental freedoms and human dignity of individuals or, where applicable, of groups of people.

Article 11

Practices which are contrary to human dignity, such as reproductive cloning of human beings, shall not be permitted. States and competent international organizations are invited to co-operate in identifying such practices and in taking, at national or international level, the measures necessary to ensure that the principles set out in this Declaration are respected.

Article 12

- (a) Benefits from advances in biology, genetics and medicine, concerning the human genome, shall be made available to all, with due regard for the dignity and human rights of each individual.
- (b) Freedom of research, which is necessary for the progress of knowledge, is part of freedom of thought. The applications of research, including applications in biology, genetics and medicine, concerning the human genome, shall seek to offer relief from suffering and improve the health of individuals and humankind as a whole.

D. Conditions for the exercise of scientific activity

Article 13

The responsibilities inherent in the activities of researchers, including meticulousness, caution, intellectual honesty and integrity in carrying out their research as well as in the presentation and utilization of their findings, should be the subject of particular attention in the framework of research on the human genome, because of its ethical and social implications. Public and private science policy-makers also have particular responsibilities in this respect.

Article 14

States should take appropriate measures to foster the intellectual and material conditions favourable to freedom in the conduct of research on the human genome and to consider the ethical, legal, social and economic implications of such research, on the basis of the principles set out in this Declaration.

Article 15

States should take appropriate steps to provide the framework for the free exercise of Research on the human genome with due regard for the principles set out in this Declaration, in order to safeguard respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and human dignity and to protect public health. They should seek to ensure that research results are not used for non-peaceful purposes.

Article 16

States should recognize the value of promoting, at various levels, as appropriate, the establishment of independent, multidisciplinary and pluralist ethics committees to assess the ethical, legal and social issues raised by research on the human genome and its applications.

E. Solidarity and international co-operation

Article 17

States should respect and promote the practice of solidarity towards individuals, families and population groups who are particularly vulnerable to or affected by disease or disability of a

genetic character. They should foster, *inter alia*, research on the identification, prevention and treatment of genetically based and genetically influenced diseases, in particular rare as well as endemic diseases which affect large numbers of the world's population.

Article 18

States should make every effort, with due and appropriate regard for the principles set out in this Declaration, to continue fostering the international dissemination of scientific knowledge concerning the human genome, human diversity and genetic research and, in that regard, to foster scientific and cultural co-operation, particularly between industrialized and developing countries.

Article 19

- (a) In the framework of international co-operation with developing countries, states should seek to encourage measures enabling:
- (i) assessment of the risks and benefits pertaining to research on the human genome to be carried out and abuse to be prevented;
 - (ii) the capacity of developing countries to carry out research on human biology and genetics, taking into consideration their specific problems, to be developed and strengthened;
 - (iii) developing countries to benefit from the achievements of scientific and technological research so that their use in favour of economic and social progress can be to the benefit of all;
 - (iv) the free exchange of scientific knowledge and information in the areas of biology, genetics and medicine to be promoted.
- (b) Relevant international organizations should support and promote the initiatives taken by states for the above-mentioned purposes.

F. Promotion of the principles set out in the Declaration

Article 20

States should take appropriate measures to promote the principles set out in the Declaration, through education and relevant means, *inter alia* through the conduct of research and training in interdisciplinary fields and through the promotion of education in bioethics, at all levels, in particular for those responsible for science policies.

Article 21

States should take appropriate measures to encourage other forms of research, training and information dissemination conducive to raising the awareness of society and all of its members of their responsibilities regarding the fundamental issues relating to the defence of human dignity which may be raised by research in biology, in genetics and in medicine, and its applications. They should also undertake to facilitate on this subject an open international discussion, ensuring the free expression of various sociocultural, religious and philosophical opinions.

G. Implementation of the Declaration

Article 22

States should make every effort to promote the principles set out in this Declaration and should, by means of all appropriate measures, promote their implementation.

Article 23

States should take appropriate measures to promote, through education, training and information dissemination, respect for the above-mentioned principles and to foster their recognition and effective application. States should also encourage exchanges and networks among independent ethics committees, as they are established, to foster full collaboration.

Article 24

The International Bioethics Committee of UNESCO should contribute to the dissemination of the principles set out in this Declaration and to the further examination of issues raised by their applications and by the evolution of the technologies in question. It should organize appropriate consultations with parties concerned, such as vulnerable groups. It should make recommendations, in accordance with UNESCO's statutory procedures, addressed to the General Conference and give advice concerning the follow-up of this Declaration, in particular regarding the identification of practices that could be contrary to human dignity, such as germ-line interventions.

Article 25

Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any state, group or person any claim to engage in any activity or to perform any act contrary to human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the principles set out in this Declaration.

17 **Implementation of the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights¹**

The General Conference,

Considering the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights, which was adopted on this eleventh day of November 1997,

Noting that the considerations formulated by the Member States at the time of the adoption of the Universal Declaration are relevant for the follow-up of the Declaration,

1. *Urges* Member States:

- (a) in the light of the provisions of the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights, to take appropriate steps, including where necessary the introduction of legislation or regulations, to promote the principles set forth in the Declaration, and to promote their implementation;
- (b) to keep the Director-General regularly informed of all measures they have taken to implement the principles set forth in the Declaration;

2. *Invites* the Director-General:

- (a) to convene as soon as possible after the 29th session of the General Conference an ad hoc working group with balanced geographical representation, comprised of representatives of Member States, with a view to advising him on the constitution and the tasks of the International Bioethics Committee with respect to the Universal Declaration and on the conditions, including the breadth of consultations, under which it will ensure the follow-up to the said Declaration, and to report on this to the Executive Board at its 154th session;
- (b) to take the necessary steps to enable the International Bioethics Committee to ensure the dissemination and follow-up of the Declaration, and the promotion of the principles set forth therein;
- (c) to prepare for the General Conference a global report on the situation worldwide in the fields relevant to the Declaration, on the basis of information supplied by the Member States and of other demonstrably trustworthy information gathered by whatever methods he may deem appropriate;
- (d) to take due account, in the preparation of his global report, of the work of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, of other intergovernmental organizations, and of the competent international non-governmental organizations;
- (e) to submit his global report to the General Conference, together with whatever general observations and recommendations may be deemed necessary in order to promote the implementation of the Declaration.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission III at the 26th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

18 Social transformations and development¹

The General Conference,

Recognizing that efforts to solve the problems of social exclusion and social transformation are hindered by the isolation of social science research findings from operational activities to improve, strengthen and above all forge links between local institutions so as to foster more active participation for a civil society with diversified cultures and unified purposes,

Conscious of the constructive role of young people and women and of the voluntary participation of marginalized groups in the least developed countries (LDCs) in mobilization for development needs,

Realizing the need for linkage to ensure that the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, September 1994), the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, March 1995) and the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, September 1995), organized on the initiative of the United Nations, lead to action-oriented solutions, entailing:

- (a) designing pilot activities for disadvantaged rural and urban areas with a view to improving the living standards of children, youth, women and families in need,
- (b) supporting local and indigenous groups to ensure their active participation in developing linkages,
- (c) identifying areas regarded by local communities and policy-makers as requiring improvement (e.g. basic education) or incorporation into local development activities (e.g. income-generation programmes),
- (d) partnership between governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and local groups at all stages of research implementation and policy formulation,

Acknowledging UNESCO's efforts, participation and involvement in international forums for human and resource development through strong links with other United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and local structures,

Noting the accelerating pace of social transformation caused by war disasters in LDCs in Africa and among the younger generations, caused by migration, urban integration and multicultural cohesion, and the need to help to develop local, regional and international co-operation on policy-relevant research in areas of social transformation and development,

Taking into account the urgent need to establish a financial commitment to support LDCs in the region most affected by problems of social exclusion and social transformation,

Invites the Director-General:

- (a) to encourage initiatives establishing research networks and training young researchers in research methods, data collection and data analysis techniques;
- (b) to support under the regular programme the implementation of research and pilot activities in countries facing problems of the rehabilitation of large population groups and needing to work out programmes and action plans for sustainable development in the aftermath of prolonged conflicts, particularly in Africa;
- (c) also to support under the regular programme the convening of a regional consultative meeting/conference on rehabilitation and sustainable development policies and issues in countries affected by civil strife and other LDCs in Africa;
- (d) to mobilize extrabudgetary resources to foster more active participation at grass-roots level, especially by women and youth.

19 Revision of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS) and of the International Fund for the Development of Physical Education and Sport (FIDEPS)²

The General Conference,

Recalling 27 C/Resolution 5.16 and 28 C/Resolution 2.11, in which it expressed the wish to 'infuse strong new life into UNESCO's action in physical education and sport, particularly within the framework of the fourth Medium-Term Plan' and shared 'the Director-General's concern

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission III at the 26th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

2. Resolution adopted on the report of the Legal Committee at the 20th plenary meeting, on 3 November 1997.

that, with its present structure, the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CICEPS) may not be an adequate instrument for resolute implementation of such renewed action' and considered it 'highly desirable for the Director-General' to propose 'a more representative, flexible and cost-efficient structure ...',

Having examined document 29 C/19 Rev. concerning the revision of the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPE) and of the International Fund for the Development of Physical Education and Sport (FIDEPS) and the proposals for the restructuring of CIGEPE and FIDEPS submitted by the Bureau of CIGEPE and the Governing Board of FIDEPS,

1. *Welcomes* the proposed new structure, which brings in Member States and international governmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular for the purpose of increasing the viability and coherence of UNESCO's action for the promotion and development of physical activities and sport;
2. *Rescinds* the present Statutes of CIGEPE and *terminates* the existence of the present Committee;
3. *Adopts* the new Statutes of CIGEPE annexed to this resolution, which, by virtue of Article 2.1 of the said new Statutes, gives rise to a requirement that elections be held during the current session of the General Conference;
4. *Rescinds* the Statutes of the International Fund for the Development of Physical Education and Sport (FIDEPS) and transfers its responsibilities and assets to the new Fund which the Director-General is invited to establish in accordance with the Financial Regulations of UNESCO and which will operate in accordance with the provisions of those Financial Regulations and of specific financial regulations to be drawn up by the Director-General in consultation with the new CIGEPE.

Annex *New Statutes of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPE)*

Article 1

An Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport, hereinafter called the 'Committee', is hereby established within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

1. The Committee shall be composed of 18 Member States of UNESCO elected by the General Conference at its ordinary sessions, taking due account of equitable geographical distribution in accordance with the principles laid down by the General Conference in regard to representation in all UNESCO's intergovernmental councils and committees and of the need to ensure an appropriate rotation.
2. The term of office of the members of the Committee shall extend from the end of the ordinary session of the General Conference during which they are elected until the end of its second subsequent ordinary session.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2 above, the term of office of one half of the members of the Committee designated at the time of the first election shall cease at the end of the first ordinary session of the General Conference following that at which they were elected. The names of these members shall be chosen by lot by the President of the General Conference after the first election. Members shall be replaced in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 above.
4. Members of the Committee shall be immediately eligible for re-election for a second four-year term of office.

5. The Committee may make recommendations concerning its membership to the General Conference.

Article 3

The Committee shall be assisted by the following organizations which shall form a Permanent Consultative Council:

- (a) the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);
- (b) other regional or interregional intergovernmental organizations that it may choose;
- (c) the International Olympic Committee (IOC);
- (d) international non-governmental organizations designated by the Committee which maintain official relations with UNESCO and can provide their technical, intellectual, financial or material support to the Committee's activities in the field of physical education and sport, including the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE) and the World Federation of the Sporting Goods Industry (WFSGI).

Article 4

1. The states members of the Committee shall seek to designate as their representatives persons playing a major part in the planning, application and implementation of national policies and international relations in respect of physical activities and sport.
2. The Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO which are not members of the Committee

may participate as observers in all the Committee's meetings.

3. The United Nations and the other organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has concluded reciprocal representation agreements may participate as observers in all the Committee's meetings.

Article 5

1. The Committee shall meet in regular session once every two years. Extraordinary sessions of the Committee may be convened by the Director-General of UNESCO either on his own initiative or at the request of the majority of the members of the Bureau, provided that the necessary resources are available.
2. Each member of the Committee shall have one vote.
3. The Committee shall adopt its decisions by simple majority of its members.
4. The Committee may invite the members of the Permanent Consultative Council to participate in its plenary meetings in a consultative capacity.
5. The Committee shall adopt its Rules of Procedure.

Article 6

1. The Permanent Consultative Council shall meet in regular session once every two years. Extraordinary sessions of the Council may be convened by the Director-General of UNESCO either on his own initiative or at the request of the majority of the members of the Council, provided that the necessary resources are available.
2. The Council shall adopt its recommendations by simple majority of its members.
3. The Council shall adopt its Rules of Procedure.

Article 7

1. At the beginning of its first session, the Committee shall elect a Bureau consisting of a Chairperson and five Vice-Chairpersons, distributed by geographical region. Each member of the Bureau shall act as Co-ordinator for the region to which he or she belongs.
2. They shall be responsible in their region for the follow-up and co-ordination of the Committee's recommendations approved by the Director-General, the Committee's activities and the information relating thereto.
3. The Bureau of the Committee shall meet at least once a year and more often if necessary. Meetings of the Bureau may be convened in between sessions of the Committee at the request of the Director-General of UNESCO, of the Chairperson or of at least three members of the Committee.

Article 8

1. The Committee shall be responsible for:
 - (a) guiding and supervising the planning and implementation of UNESCO's strategy and programme of activities in the field of physical

activity and sport, in particular by recommending an order of priorities among the various activities or groups of activities constituting the programme;

- (b) promoting international co-operation in the sphere of physical activity and sport with a view to strengthening peace, friendship, understanding and mutual respect between peoples, in particular by helping Member States, either at their request or at the suggestion of the Permanent Consultative Council, to co-ordinate their programmes and activities in this sphere;
 - (c) facilitating the adoption, promotion and dissemination of the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport;
 - (d) encouraging recognition of the social importance of physical education and sport as an essential feature in the harmonious development of the personality;
 - (e) undertaking, on the basis of principles generally accepted in the field of physical activity and sport, such activities as the General Conference may decide;
 - (f) promoting research into physical activity and sport and the collection, analysis and publication of scientific works and other documents relating notably to physical education and sport and the improvement of programmes and staff training in this sphere, as well as promoting the exchange of specialists and the holding, as necessary, of regional meetings, seminars and courses on various aspects of physical education and sport;
 - (g) establishing general policy for supporting, strengthening, developing and supervising the International Fund for the Development of Physical Education and Sport;
 - (h) encouraging joint action and useful, confident and effective co-operation in the field of the development and promotion of physical activity and sport in civil society in general and with the media, non-governmental organizations, international federations and the institutions and agencies of the United Nations system.
2. In carrying out its functions, the Committee shall, whenever necessary, attempt to take into account other international programmes in physical activity and sport.
 3. The Committee shall collaborate in the preparation and evaluation of UNESCO's programme in the field of physical activity and sport. It shall also be responsible for enlisting in favour of regional, subregional or national activities corresponding to the Committee's objectives, the technical, financial and material support of the Member States of UNESCO and of public and private subregional, regional or international institutions, bodies and sources of financing in respect of the following four main areas of activity:
 - (a) reduction of the disparities, inequalities and imbalances between the nations and the regions of the world;
 - (b) safeguarding of the ethical values of sport;
 - (c) development of physical activities and sport in the context of formal and informal education systems and within the process of lifelong education;

- (d) upgrading of the functions which sport can perform in the fields of cultural action, environmental protection, the creation of job opportunities, social integration and health.
4. At the request of the Committee, and in accordance with the resolutions of the General Conference, the Permanent Consultative Council shall be entitled to formulate recommendations in the fields of competence of the Committee. The Committee shall examine them and, as appropriate, shall submit them to the Director-General of UNESCO.
2. The secretariat shall provide the necessary services for the sessions of the Committee and meetings of its Bureau.
3. The secretariat shall fix, in agreement with the Bureau, the dates of sessions of the Committee and of its Bureau, and shall take all steps required to convene them.

Article 11

Article 9

1. After consultation with the Permanent Consultative Council, the Committee may establish ad hoc groups. It may receive proposals to this effect from the Permanent Consultative Council.
2. Ad hoc groups shall be responsible for examining particular problems and for presenting and implementing activities and projects designed to meet specific needs falling within the competence of the Committee in the light of particular or topical themes and/or geographical contexts.

Article 10

1. The secretariat of the Committee shall be provided by the Director-General of UNESCO, who shall place at the Committee's disposal the staff and other means required for its operation.

1. Member States shall bear the expense of the participation of their representatives in sessions of the Committee and of its Bureau. However, for each biennium and in consultation with the Director-General, the Committee shall examine, within the framework of its Rules of Procedure, the possibility of making arrangements to meet the travel and subsistence costs, for sessions of the Committee and meetings of its Bureau, of representatives of Member States which are among UNESCO's priority target groups.
2. The running expenses of the Committee shall be financed from funds appropriated for this purpose by the General Conference of UNESCO at each of its ordinary sessions.

Article 12

The Bureau, on behalf of the Intergovernmental Committee, shall submit reports on the Committee's activities to the General Conference of UNESCO.

20 **Major Programme III: Cultural development: the heritage and creativity¹**

The General Conference

1. *Authorizes* the Director-General to implement this major programme in accordance with the main lines of emphasis set out in document 29 C/5;
2. *Invites* the Director-General, in particular:
 - A. Under Programme III.1, 'Preservation and enhancement of the cultural and natural heritage', which aims to promote an integrated approach to the preservation and enhancement of the heritage, reconciling the imperatives of conservation and the requirements of development, and to that end, to strengthen endogenous capacities and the participation of local communities in rehabilitation efforts:
 - (a) to develop preventive action by encouraging the ratification and more effective implementation of international conventions and recommendations, and the development of strategies to enhance preparedness in case of natural or human-made disasters, and to ensure the safeguarding of elements of the intangible heritage which are in danger of becoming extinct;
 - (b) to improve heritage management by facilitating its integration into national development plans, by encouraging participatory approaches involving the whole community, and by reinforcing the training of specialists in collecting, conservation and museology, with emphasis on the transmission and adaptation of traditional skills;
 - (c) to encourage the application of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (1970) and the UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects (1995) and, with a view to preventing illicit traffic in cultural property, to support the efforts of Member States to improve security measures in museums, to

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission IV at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

- preserve and enhance collections, and to promote and adopt measures for the identification of cultural property which is to be exported;
- (d) to encourage the development of interdisciplinary approaches intended to revitalize, in a co-ordinated way, the tangible and intangible cultural and natural heritage, and thus help to promote lasting solutions to the development needs of local communities;
 - (e) to encourage the formulation of strategies to raise awareness among specialists and the general public, especially among young people, of the wealth of the tangible and intangible heritage, including traditional music, and of the ethical values it embodies, and to promote the participation of museums and other institutions concerned with the heritage in this endeavour;
 - (f) to rally international support for emergency operations and for the continuation of safeguarding campaigns, and to assist Member States in drawing up and carrying out projects to restore the local and national heritage;
 - (g) to support the work of the statutory organs of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972), with a view in particular to improving the representativity of the World Heritage List, by implementing the global strategy for the cultural and natural heritage and by assisting States Parties to the Convention, especially in Africa and the least developed countries, in the preparation of tentative lists and nominations;
 - (h) to contribute to the strengthening of local and national capacities for the long-term protection and effective management of designated world heritage properties;
 - (i) to assist the States Parties to the Convention to establish systems for the systematic monitoring of the state of conservation of designated world heritage properties and to draw up reports thereon;
 - (j) to develop information and awareness-raising material about the world heritage for various target groups and in particular for young people and for local communities living in or near world heritage sites;
- B. Under Programme III.2, 'Promotion of living cultures', whose purpose is to encourage creativity by enhancing expressions of popular culture, fostering artistic information and training networks, and contributing to the shaping of an environment conducive to the creation, dissemination and protection of works, in particular through the promotion of endogenous cultural industries involving creative activities protected by copyright:
- (a) to continue efforts to ensure better acknowledgement of the interaction between culture and development, by stimulating debate and reflection on the issues raised in the report of the World Commission on Culture and Development, 'Our Creative Diversity', by providing support for the Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies for Development to be held in Stockholm in 1998, and by drawing up the first World Culture Report, surveying recent trends in culture and development;
 - (b) to encourage art education for children and young people in and out of school, especially in deprived urban areas and in rural areas;
 - (c) to contribute to enhancing traditional and popular cultures, by assisting the training and advanced training of young artists and the setting up of associative networks at the local, national and regional levels;
 - (d) to encourage the development of crafts, giving priority to activities introducing schoolchildren to craft professions and to training and advanced training for young craftworkers;
 - (e) to promote contemporary forms of creativity by giving support to regional and international artistic exchange and information networks and by carrying out activities designed to increase awareness of the role and status of the artist, and to develop national capacities and regional co-operation for the funding and management of culture;
 - (f) to continue to promote the protection of copyright and neighbouring rights by support for the improvement of university teaching, for training for specialists in rights management, for informing specialists and for raising public awareness, and to promote scientific inquiry into the problems raised in the field of copyright and neighbouring rights by the widespread use of new interactive technologies;
 - (g) to encourage the formulation of policies, strategies and programmes to strengthen national and regional production and distribution capacities in the book and other cultural industries, and to promote the application of agreements concerning the free circulation of cultural goods;

- (h) to promote reading and other cultural practices, and to encourage the development of formal and informal regional initiatives devoted to the exchange of information and experience in the promotion of reading, giving particular attention to children and young people and to the role children's literature can play in learning about tolerance;
- (i) to encourage the translation and distribution of major literary works representative of various cultures, in the framework in particular of the UNESCO Collection of Representative Works and taking advantage of the opportunities provided by the new technologies;
- (j) to encourage reflection on the cultural implications of the new information and communication technologies, and to explore the opportunities cyberspace offers, especially to women and young people, for taking a more active part in cultural life.

21 Preparation of an international instrument for the protection of the underwater cultural heritage¹

The General Conference,

Having examined the report by the Director-General on the action taken concerning the desirability of preparing an international instrument for the protection of the underwater cultural heritage (29 C/22), including the report of the meeting of experts for the protection of the underwater cultural heritage held at Headquarters from 22 to 24 May 1996 (29 C/22, Annex I), and the comments of Member States (Annex II),

Recalling 28 C/Resolution 3.13, in which it invited the Director-General to report back to the 29th session in order to enable it at that session to determine whether it is desirable for the matter to be dealt with on an international basis and also which method should be adopted for this purpose,

Noting that the Secretariat has undertaken close consultations on this matter with the Division of the United Nations in charge of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and with the International Maritime Organization,

1. *Thanks* the Director-General for his report;
2. *Decides* that the protection of the underwater cultural heritage should be regulated at the international level and that the method adopted should be an international convention;
3. *Invites* the Director-General:
 - (a) to prepare a first draft convention concerning the protection of the underwater cultural heritage;
 - (b) to circulate this first draft to Member States for comments and observations;
 - (c) to convene a small group of governmental experts representing all regions together with representatives of the competent international organizations in order to consider this draft convention with a view to its submission to the General Conference at its 30th session;
4. *Urges* Member States to take immediate measures within their jurisdiction and in a framework of international co-operation, to ensure that damage to underwater cultural heritage is limited until such time as a convention is adopted.

22 Jerusalem and the implementation of 28 C/Resolution 3.14¹

The General Conference,

I

Having learned of the sudden death of the Director-General's personal representative for Jerusalem, Professor Raymond Lemaire,

1. *Expresses* its deep sadness and heartfelt sympathy, extending its most sincere condolences to his wife and family;
2. *Pays deeply felt tribute* to the memory of a man who, over the past 26 years, devoted so much effort to the preservation of the Old City of Jerusalem;

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II

Recalling the Hague Convention and Protocol of 1954 for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, the relevant provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and its Additional Protocols, the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972) and the inclusion of the Old City of Jerusalem on the World Heritage List and on the List of World Heritage in Danger,

Recalling that, in regard to the status of Jerusalem, UNESCO abides by United Nations Security Council and General Assembly decisions and resolutions and in particular by resolutions 242 (1967), 252 (1968), 267 (1969), 271 (1969), 298 (1971) and 478 (1980) of the Security Council and by resolutions 2253 (ES-V) and 2254 (ES-V) of the United Nations General Assembly,

Concerned at the difficulties facing the peace process in the Middle East and the deterioration of the situation, and in particular at the control measures that hamper free access by Palestinians to East Jerusalem and the Holy Places of the Old City of Jerusalem, and at the constraints faced in educational programmes envisaged,

Having considered the Director-General's report on this subject (29 C/14 and Add. and Corr.),

1. *Recalls and reaffirms* UNESCO's previous decisions and resolutions on the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of East Jerusalem, and *requests* that no measure and no action likely to modify the religious, cultural, historical and demographic character of the city and the overall balance of the site be taken;
2. *Welcomes* the restoration work undertaken by the Waqf under UNESCO's supervision on *Sammâm ash-Shifâ'* and *Sammâm al-'Ain*, the project for the preservation and restoration of the manuscripts of the *Al-AqZà* Museum and Library, and the project to publish the catalogue of the *Al-AqZà* manuscripts;
3. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the co-operation contemplated between UNESCO, the Jerusalem Waqf and the Welfare Association (Centre for Development and Consultancy) with a view to the restoration of historic buildings in the Old City, and the training programme for heritage specialists;
4. *Thanks* the Member States (Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Sultanate of Oman, Qatar, Pakistan, Indonesia, Cyprus, Malta and Sao Tome and Principe) that have contributed to the safeguarding of the cultural property of the Old City of Jerusalem, and *renews its appeal* for this type of contribution to be increased;
5. *Thanks* the Director-General for all the efforts he has made and is continuing to make to ensure the implementation of UNESCO decisions and resolutions concerning Jerusalem;
6. *Invites* the Director-General to undertake, following the studies already carried out and in co-operation with the Jerusalem Waqf, restoration work on the Dome of the Rock;
7. *Invites* the Director-General to initiate studies with a view to promoting the restoration and preservation of the historic and religious sites of all the religious communities in the Old City of Jerusalem;
8. *Decides* to place this question on the agenda of its 30th session.

23 The oral heritage of humanity¹

The General Conference,

Recalling that UNESCO's Constitution provides that the Organization will maintain, increase and diffuse knowledge by ensuring the conservation and protection of the world's inheritance,

Reaffirming its support for the activities envisaged in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1998-1999 (29 C/5) under Major Programme III aimed at identifying, safeguarding, revitalizing and promoting the intangible heritage of the Member States,

Stressing the role played with respect to the cultural diversity of humanity by various forms of popular cultural expression, such as oral traditions, rites and customs, music, dance, popular theatre and craft skills, which are generally transmitted orally,

Stressing also the importance of the oral heritage as a source of inspiration for creativity,

Taking into account the symbolic, educational, social and economic value of this cultural heritage, which contributes to the memory of peoples, to their cultural roots, and to exchanges and

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission IV at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

dialogue, and which also helps to secure acknowledgement for the interests of future generations,

Considering that it is necessary, as a matter of urgency, to pursue and intensify the efforts of the Member States and the Secretariat of the Organization to identify, safeguard, revitalize and promote the various forms of intangible and oral heritage, on the basis of the provisions and guidelines contained in the Recommendation on the Safeguarding of Traditional Culture and Folklore adopted by the General Conference at its 25th session,

Welcoming the convening at Marrakesh (Morocco) of the International Consultation on the Preservation of Popular Cultural Spaces (26-28 June 1997), whose conclusions highlighted the importance for Member States of spaces or forms of popular cultural expression such as Jâma' el-Fnâ Square in Marrakesh, which has been the subject of an in-depth case-study aimed at illustrating the concept of the 'oral heritage of humanity',

1. *Expresses its support* for the activities provided for under the programme on 'Living Human Treasures' (29 C/5, para. 03013), which are aimed at recognizing the importance of the possessors of exceptional skills relating to areas of popular and traditional cultural expression, and at encouraging the transmission of such skills to subsequent generations;
2. *Decides* to highlight the importance of the intangible cultural heritage for peoples and nations by proclaiming spaces or forms of cultural expression part of the 'oral heritage of humanity';
3. *Calls on* the Member States and the international community to associate themselves with the activities to be implemented by the Organization in connection with the activities under the Programme and Budget for 1998-1999 and subsequent programmes envisaged aimed at identifying permanent spaces or forms of popular and traditional cultural expression which deserve to be proclaimed by UNESCO as symbols of the 'oral heritage of humanity';
4. *Stresses* that such spaces or forms should constitute exceptional examples of freedom and diversity of cultural expression, of social interaction, tolerance and cultural understanding, of the preservation of the collective memory, of the education of youth, of the oral transmission of universal values, of exchanges among generations and of urban integration;
5. *Requests* Member States and donors to make financial contributions in support of this action;
6. *Invites* the Director-General to prepare and submit to the Executive Board at its 154th session (May 1998) a detailed proposal concerning the criteria for the selection of such spaces or forms, the practical arrangements for international recognition thereof as part of the oral heritage of humanity, and the type of action required from the Organization, the international community and public and private donors in order to ensure the protection and promotion of such cultural spaces.

24 **Implementation of the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage¹**

The General Conference,

Noting that the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage has recognized that the cultural and natural heritage is 'increasingly threatened with destruction, not only by traditional causes of decay, but also by changing social and economic conditions which aggravate the situation with even more formidable phenomena of damage or destruction',

Considering the 25 years' experience acquired in the implementation of the Convention,

Reaffirming that the 'deterioration or disappearance of any item of the cultural or natural heritage constitutes a harmful impoverishment of the heritage of all the nations of the world',

Also reaffirming the sovereign right of the State Party concerned over the world heritage sites on its territory, but *considering also* that a well thought out and formulated common policy for the protection of cultural and natural heritage is likely to create a continuing interaction between States Parties,

1. *Emphasizes* that it is in the interest of each State Party to be informed of the experience of others with regard to conservation methods and the possibilities so offered, through voluntary international co-operation, for the general improvement of all actions undertaken;
2. *Reaffirms* the standard-setting role of the General Assembly of the States Parties as well as of the World Heritage Committee;

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3. *Concludes* that monitoring is the responsibility of the State Party concerned and that the commitment to provide periodic reports on the state of the site is consistent with the principles set out in the Convention in the first, second, sixth, seventh and eighth preambular paragraphs and in Articles 4, 6.1 and 6.2, 7, 10, 11, 13, 15, 21.3 and 29;
4. *Emphasizes* that that monitoring is part of site management which remains the responsibility of the States Parties on whose territory the sites are located, and that periodic reports may be submitted in accordance with Article 29 of the Convention;
5. *Recalls* that Article 4 of the Convention provides that 'Each State Party recognizes that the duty of ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage ... situated on its territory belongs primarily to that state';
6. *Recalls also* that Article 6 lays down the concept of world heritage 'for whose protection it is the duty of the international community as a whole to co-operate', and that Article 7 requires the establishment of a 'system of international co-operation and assistance designed to support States Parties to the Convention in their efforts to conserve and identify that heritage';
7. *Emphasizes* that periodic reporting should be part of a consultative process and not treated as a sanction or a coercive mechanism;
8. *Notes* that within the broad responsibility of the World Heritage Committee in standard-setting, the form, nature and extent of the periodic reporting must respect the principle of State sovereignty and that the involvement of the Committee, through its secretariat and/or advisory bodies, in the preparation of the periodic reports would be with the agreement of the State Party concerned;
9. *Further notes* that the States Parties may request expert advice from the secretariat and/or the advisory bodies and that the secretariat may also commission expert advice with the agreement of the States Parties;
10. *Invites* the States Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage to submit to it in accordance with Article 29 of the Convention, through the World Heritage Committee, via its secretariat, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, reports on the legislative and administrative provisions they have adopted and other actions which they have taken for the application of the Convention, including information on the state of conservation of the World Heritage properties located on their territories;
11. *Requests* the World Heritage Committee to define the periodicity, form, nature and extent of the periodic reporting on the application of the Convention and on the state of conservation of world heritage properties and to examine and respond to these reports in accordance with the principle of state sovereignty;
12. *Also requests* the World Heritage Committee to include in its reports to the General Conference, submitted in accordance with Article 29.3 of the Convention, its findings with regard to the application of the Convention by the States Parties;
13. *Encourages* States Parties to take advantage of shared information and experience on world heritage matters and to contribute to the conservation of world heritage properties, *inter alia* through voluntary contributions to the world heritage fund;
14. *Invites* other states to become States Parties to the Convention.

25 Follow-up to the World Decade for Cultural Development¹

The General Conference,

Recalling Recommendation 27 of the World Conference on Cultural Policies (Mexico City, 1982), 23 C/Resolution 11.10 on the World Decade for Cultural Development, and resolution 41/187 in which the United Nations General Assembly in 1986 proclaimed the World Decade for Cultural Development for the period 1988-1997, and placed it under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Welcoming the evaluation carried out by the Intergovernmental Committee of the World Decade for Cultural Development at its fifth regular session (21-25 April 1997) and its very positive assessment of the activities implemented within the framework of the Decade,

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission IV at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

Taking note of the recommendations made by the Intergovernmental Committee at its fifth and final session (April 1997),

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the active participation of Member States, through the National Committees for the Decade in particular, the organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and individuals in the implementation of projects aiming to promote the objectives of the Decade;
2. *Takes note* of the results obtained in sensitizing public and private institutions and a wide sector of public opinion throughout the world to the need for better integration of the cultural dimension in the development process;
3. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Draft Programme and Budget for 1998-1999 has taken account of the lessons learnt, experience gained and of the momentum generated through the Decade, and enables the achievements of the Decade to be preserved through, in particular, the follow-up to the implementation of certain major projects and activities on themes linking culture and development and through the follow-up to the report *Our Creative Diversity*;
4. *Invites* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, civil society and individuals to further their efforts to promote genuine implementation of the objectives of the Decade, particularly by adopting a cultural approach to the process of the elaboration and implementation of development strategies, programmes and projects in order to ensure the conditions for a sustainable human development which fully respects diversity;
5. *Invites* the Director-General to take the necessary measures to submit a proposal to the United Nations General Assembly to include the cultural dimension of development in the elaboration of the international strategy for the next United Nations Development Decade.

26 Universal Forum of Cultures - Barcelona 2004¹

The General Conference,

Having taken cognizance of the document submitted by Spain concerning the plans made by the city of Barcelona to prepare the Universal Forum of Cultures - Barcelona 2004 (29 C/58),

Considering with great satisfaction that the objectives of the Forum are closely linked to those contained in UNESCO's programmes, particularly with regard to the culture of peace and intercultural dialogue,

Believing that the Forum can make a considerable contribution to the achievement of UNESCO's objectives and to the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the World Commission on Culture and Development, through the values and ideals it seeks to promote, the impact it is likely to have and the innovative methods it will employ,

Noting that the organizers of the Forum are proposing that UNESCO should be their main partner and *convinced* that co-operation of this kind would be particularly fruitful for the attainment of common goals,

Noting in this respect that the costs of the Forum will be fully covered by its organizers and that this co-operation would therefore have no budgetary implications for UNESCO,

Considering that UNESCO could play a particularly effective part, in the framework of the objectives set forth in the Medium-Term Strategy for 1996-2001 and in the Programme and Budget for 1998-1999, both in formulating the approaches and major themes that could guide the implementation of the Forum and in mobilizing partners and networks of various kinds to ensure the Forum's impact and influence,

1. *Decides* that UNESCO, in accordance with the proposal made by the organizers of the Forum, should be the main partner of the Forum throughout the various phases of the project;
2. *Invites* the Director-General, in accordance with the sixth preambular paragraph, to initiate the preparatory activities falling within UNESCO's competence, on the understanding that these activities do not imply any additional costs, as indicated in the fifth preambular paragraph;
3. *Also invites* the Director-General, in co-operation with the organizers of the Forum and ensuring full compliance with the 1928 convention establishing the International Exhibitions Bureau, to prepare a draft framework agreement on the modalities of UNESCO's association with the Forum, together with a plan of action, for submission to the Executive Board at one of its forthcoming sessions;

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4. *Further invites* the Director-General to report to it at its 30th session on the implementation of this resolution.

27 Cultural Olympiad 2000-2004¹

The General Conference,

Fully aware of the objectives of the United Nations in respect of peace and social development, as they have been reaffirmed at the end of this century,

Considering that the essential mandate of UNESCO, the prime forum for the moral and intellectual solidarity of humanity, is 'to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture, in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms' of all,

Recognizing the fundamental importance of culture as an instrument of knowledge and mutual understanding among the peoples of the whole world in their 'creative diversity', as clearly highlighted by the report of the Commission chaired by Javier Pérez de Cuéllar,

Stressing the resolute commitment of UNESCO to the construction of a culture of peace,

Taking note of the convergence towards one and the same ideal of projects like the Universal Forum of Cultures - Barcelona 2004,

Recalling that Greece, in its candidacy for the Olympic Games, which it will be hosting in the year 2004, committed itself to organizing the Cultural Olympiad,

Noting that the budget for the Cultural Olympiad will be fully borne by its organizers and that this operation will therefore not entail any direct or indirect expenditure for UNESCO,

1. *Considers* that, in conformity with the objectives of UNESCO and the Olympic ideal by virtue of the values it seeks to promote, the project for the Cultural Olympiad comes in the front rank of activities concerning the culture of peace and dialogue between cultures;
2. *Decides* that, in accordance with the wishes of the organizers, UNESCO will be a pre-eminent partner in the project, which will be carried out from the year 2000 to the year 2004;
3. *Invites* the Director-General to decide with the organizers on the forms that this co-operation will take and in particular to draw up a Memorandum of Understanding that will be submitted to the Executive Board at one of its forthcoming sessions.

28 Major Programme IV: Communication, information and informatics¹

The General Conference

1. *Authorizes* the Director-General to implement this major programme in accordance with the main lines of emphasis set out in document 29 C/5;

2. *Invites* the Director-General, in particular:

- A. Under Programme IV.1, 'Free flow of information', the purpose of which is to encourage the free flow of ideas by word and image and a wider and better balanced dissemination of all forms of information contributing to the advancement of societies, without any obstacle to freedom of expression, both through the traditional media and through the new electronic media:
 - (a) to promote freedom of expression and freedom of the press and ensure the safety of journalists by increasing co-operation with non-governmental organizations, the International Freedom of Expression Exchange Network (IFEX) and the United Nations agencies and programmes concerned;
 - (b) to promote the development of independent and pluralistic media, in particular by supporting local, national and regional implementation of the declarations and plans of action adopted by the five regional seminars held on that theme, and to continue studies of legislation assisting the development of such media;
 - (c) to contribute to the development of editorially independent broadcasting by formulating, together with the Member States and regional broadcasting unions,

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission IV at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

- principles of public service broadcasting suitable for different socio-political contexts and levels of technological development;
- (d) to encourage Member States to provide financial and technical resources for the establishment of broadcasting organizations as independent public service institutions;
 - (e) to strengthen the educational and cultural mission of public service broadcasting, to encourage new approaches seeking to reduce violence on the screen and to provide assistance for an international research programme on youth and the media;
 - (f) to enhance the role of women in the media, especially by helping to strengthen the WOMMED/FEMMED network;
 - (g) to continue implementing the 'Memory of the World' programme by encouraging the formulation of national and regional strategies for the development of the programme, by promoting a policy of digitization and on-line access for products which are already available and by stimulating and facilitating the development of interregional pilot projects for the restoration, conservation and digitization of collections;
 - (h) to facilitate access to information in the public domain with the ultimate aim of building up a general electronic repository of all information of a public nature relevant to UNESCO's fields of competence;
 - (i) to help Member States formulate national and regional policies for the development of information technologies, while promoting access to the Internet as a public service and to telematics applications for development, and to provide support for regional programmes of specialized information;
 - (j) to provide support for the initiatives of Member States wishing to make use of the possibilities opened up by the new technologies to improve the efficiency of the civil service and public services and to promote the use of telematics as an aid to decision-making and to dialogue between citizens and the public authorities;
- B. Under the project 'Ethical and sociocultural challenges of the new information society':
- (a) to stimulate interdisciplinary reflection on the sociocultural impacts of the new technologies and on the legal, economic and ethical issues related to cyberspace, and to organize the collection of relevant information and cyberspace codes, such as legal principles and codes of conduct compiled by other international organizations and by professional organizations, so that due account may be taken of them in UNESCO's work;
 - (b) to collect and disseminate data, analyses and innovative experiences concerning the cultural and educational aspects of the emerging information society, with special reference to cultural pluralism and linguistic diversity and the impacts on cognitive processes and ways of learning;
- C. Under Programme IV.2, 'Capacity-building in communication, information and informatics', the purpose of which is to help Member States, particularly the developing countries, and disadvantaged communities worldwide to strengthen their capacities in communication, information and informatics:
- (a) to continue support for development projects related to communication and, to that end, to increase the fund-raising capacity of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) and to enlist new partners;
 - (b) to contribute to the training of communication professionals and help strengthen the network of UNESCO Chairs in communication (ORBICOM);
 - (c) to support the development of community media in order to enable different social groups, especially the more isolated or disadvantaged, to participate in development strategies and, in so doing, help local populations gain access to international programmes and services;
 - (d) to encourage the development and distribution, regionally and internationally, of local audiovisual productions from the developing countries;
 - (e) in pursuance of the enlarged mandate of the General Information Programme (PGI), to support the development of library and information services as community information centres and gateways to electronic information, to reinforce the library networks, to contribute to the training of librarians and information professionals, and to adapt the activities in the field of informatics, and in particular those carried out under the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme (IIP), to the new technological environment by providing, primarily in a co-development context, support for the assimilation of information technology and the creation and enhancement of multicultural and

multilingual material on the networks with a view to its integration into international exchanges;

- (f) to convene the statutory meetings of the PGI Intergovernmental Council and the IIP Intergovernmental Committee, as well as those of their bureaux, as joint meetings, in order to release funds for concrete activities in Member States and to establish the synergies necessary to adapt UNESCO's activities to the challenges of the information highways, thus enabling the 30th session of the General Conference to take a well-informed decision about a possible merger of these two intergovernmental programmes or any other appropriate solution;
- (g) to help implement flagship projects for the restoration and modernization of the world's major libraries;
- (h) to encourage the modernization of archive services, to support efforts to ensure archive conservation and to improve the training of archivists, and to stimulate interregional professional co-operation;
- (i) to encourage the establishment of electronic networks among scientific, educational and cultural institutions with a view to promoting co-operation in those fields, and to help strengthen regional informatics networks;
- (j) to enhance the Organization's advisory role in the setting up, in co-operation with the other major programmes and transdisciplinary projects, of virtual learning communities and virtual laboratories in all UNESCO's fields of competence;
- (k) to contribute to the training of computer specialists and users, in particular by promoting the establishment and networking of centres of excellence and UNESCO Chairs in informatics.

29 **Condemnation of violence against journalists¹**

The General Conference,

Recalling Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that 'everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers',

Confirming that freedom of expression is a fundamental right of everyone and is essential to the realization of all the rights set forth in international human rights instruments,

Also recalling the American Convention on Human Rights (Pact of San José, Costa Rica), the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

Bearing in mind resolution 59(I) of the United Nations General Assembly, of 14 December 1946, in which it is stated that freedom of information is a fundamental human right, General Assembly resolution 45/76A of 11 December 1990 on information in the service of humanity, and resolution 1997/27, of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, on the right to freedom of opinion and expression,

Reaffirming that the rights to life and to liberty and integrity and security of person and also to freedom of expression are fundamental human rights that are recognized and guaranteed by international conventions and instruments,

Considering:

- (a) that over the past ten years an increasing number of journalists have been assassinated for exercising their profession, a development denounced by various international organizations, and that the majority of these crimes still go unpunished,
- (b) that this reality in the Americas, for example, has been corroborated by the Inter-American Press Association (IAPA) through investigations conducted in various countries and by special missions,

Mindful that, as a consequence of the Hemisphere Conference on Unpunished Crimes against Journalists convened by IAPA, several professional organizations have decided to engage in specific joint action to shed light on unpunished crimes against journalists,

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission IV at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

Conscious that the assassination of journalists goes beyond depriving people of their lives in that it involves a curtailment of freedom of expression, with all that this implies as a limitation on the freedoms and rights of society as a whole,

1. *Invites* the Director-General:

- (a) to condemn assassination and any physical violence against journalists as a crime against society, since this curtails freedom of expression and, as a consequence, the other rights and freedoms set forth in international human rights instruments;
- (b) to urge that the competent authorities discharge their duty of preventing, investigating and punishing such crimes and remedying their consequences;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to take the necessary measures to implement the following recommendations:

- (a) that governments adopt the principle that there should be no statute of limitations for crimes against persons when these are perpetrated to prevent the exercise of freedom of information and expression or when their purpose is the obstruction of justice;
- (b) that governments refine legislation to make it possible to prosecute and sentence those who instigate the assassination of persons exercising the right to freedom of expression;
- (c) that legislation provide that the persons responsible for offences against journalists discharging their professional duties or the media must be judged by civil and/or ordinary courts.

30 Children and violence on the screen¹

The General Conference,

Considering that one of the principal roles of information, particularly as channelled through the modern electronic media, is to serve the educational, scientific and cultural objectives of humanity and to share knowledge, particularly among young people, often the major part of the electronic audience,

Bearing in mind the increasing amount of violent material made available through the electronic media and on international networks such as the Internet, and the easy access to these materials which is available, even to the very young,

Conscious of the absolute need to safeguard freedom of expression, as set out in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and *bearing in mind* the various international instruments adopted in support of Article 19 and of the protection of the young,

1. *Requests* the Member States to contribute to work carried out by the International Clearing House on Children and Violence on the Screen, established at the University of Gothenburg with the support of UNESCO, and to encourage the extension of its activities in co-operation with other universities, research centres and media organizations in pursuance of its objectives;
2. *Invites* professional associations of journalists and the media to draw up, where they do not yet exist, professional guidelines to reduce violence on the electronic media and on international networks such as the Internet, with the particular objective of protecting the very young, and to respect these guidelines by applying self-discipline and self-regulation.

31 Revival of the Ancient Library of Alexandria¹

The General Conference,

Taking into consideration the importance of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage which in the broadest sense includes the tangible and intangible cultural heritage in all its forms,

Taking into account the strategies proposed by UNESCO in its Medium-Term Strategy (1996-2001) in order to confront the problems and challenges of the twenty-first century and arrive at a clearer understanding of the role played by cultural factors in determining the success or failure of development strategies,

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission IV at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

Referring to the world appeal launched by UNESCO in October 1987 for the project for the Revival of the Ancient Library of Alexandria,

Taking into consideration the efforts of the Arab Republic of Egypt to implement the project, the foundations of the new library having been completed at a total cost of US \$55 million and a start having been made on the second phase, the establishment of the premises at an estimated total cost of US \$117.50 million,

Urges Member States and the international community to continue to provide aid for the completion of the implementation of the project for the Revival of the Ancient Library of Alexandria in accordance with the appeal.

32 Assistance to the National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina¹

The General Conference,

Taking into account its previous resolutions regarding the restoration of the National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo,

Considering the importance of such a library as a symbol of culture, freedom, coexistence and co-operation among people with different traditions and religions,

Evaluating in a positive way the reconstruction, which has already started, of this monument of culture,

1. *Asks* the international community and the individual states to continue and improve all initiatives aimed at the reconstruction and complete rehabilitation of the library;
2. *Proposes* that the library be declared a 'Monument to Inter-Ethnic Peace in the World' (or a 'World Monument to Inter-Ethnic Peace').

33 Use of permanent paper¹

The General Conference,

Recalling that the preservation of and access to the cultural heritage is one of UNESCO's major concerns,

Considering that, with respect to the preservation of the tangible cultural heritage, UNESCO has initiated several international conventions and recommendations, including the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, and has initiated or participated in several programmes such as the 'Memory of the World' programme and the 'Blue Shield' initiative,

Considering that many of the world's cultural, educational and scientific resources in written form on paper are endangered because the acidic paper which has been in common use for the last 150 years deteriorates in a matter of decades,

Considering that permanent paper with a life of hundreds of years is increasingly available at comparable prices,

Considering that major and costly efforts are required to salvage the most important existing publications and documents, and that these efforts could be avoided by the use of permanent paper,

Considering that the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), in resolutions adopted by its Council in 1989 and 1991, recommends that UNESCO and other United Nations agencies use permanent paper in their publications and documents and that UNESCO survey the use of such paper in its Member States,

Considering that the International Council on Archives at its twelfth International Congress held in Montreal in 1992 recommended that its members encourage their governments to adopt policies promoting the use of permanent paper,

Considering that this was discussed by the PGI Intergovernmental Council and its Bureau in 1993 and 1994,

Considering that in 1989 the International Publishers Association (IPA) recommended the use of permanent paper by publishers in its affiliated national publishing associations,

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission IV at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

Considering that the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) through its Technical Committee 46 (Information and Documentation) has adopted International Standard ISO 9706:1994 (*Information and documentation - Paper for documents - Requirements for permanence*),

Considering that, in a number of countries, laws or regulations have been adopted requiring the use of permanent paper in some or all official publications and documents,

1. *Commends* the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, the International Council on Archives, the International Publishers Association and the International Organization for Standardization for their efforts to promote the use of permanent paper;
2. *Recommends* that the Member States of UNESCO, by legislation, regulation, encouragement and example, promote the use and identification of permanent paper in their respective territories for publications and documents to be retained for historical or information purposes;
3. *Invites* the Director-General to ensure that UNESCO documents and publications are printed on permanent paper and carry a statement or logo to that effect, and arrange for the collection of data through the UNESCO statistical surveys on the extent to which permanent paper is being used worldwide.

34 Sana'a Declaration¹

The General Conference,

Recalling Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Also recalling 26 C/Resolution 4.3 in which it recognized 'that a free, pluralistic and independent press is an essential component of any democratic society', and invited the Director-General 'to extend to other regions of the world the action ... to encourage press freedom and to promote the independence and pluralism of the media',

Further recalling 27 C/Resolution 4.1 and in particular paragraph 2.A(a), inviting the Director-General 'to promote the free flow of information at the international and national levels, press freedom, independent and pluralistic media, and a better balanced dissemination of information, without any obstacle to freedom of expression',

Thanking the Director-General for having organized, in accordance with 28 C/Resolution 4.6, and in co-operation with the United Nations Department of Public Information and professional media organizations and with the assistance of a number of donor agencies, the regional Seminar on Promoting Independent and Pluralistic Arab Media (Sana'a (Yemen), 7-11 January 1996),

Stressing the outstanding importance of that Seminar, which will contribute to creating conditions that will enable pluralistic media to develop and participate effectively in the democratization and development processes in the Arab region,

1. *Endorses* the Sana'a Declaration as it did the declarations adopted by participants in the seminars held in Windhoek (Namibia) (29 April-3 May 1991), in Almaty (Kazakhstan) (5-9 October 1992) and in Santiago (Chile) (2-6 May 1994);
2. *Invites* Member States to facilitate the implementation of the Sana'a Declaration and to contribute to the worldwide trends towards democracy, freedom of expression and press freedom;
3. *Also invites* the members of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication to take this Declaration into account when selecting the projects that will be financed by this programme;
4. *Requests* the Director-General to ensure that support and the required resources are given to activities that will facilitate the achievement of the goals and objectives of the declarations adopted by the seminars held in Windhoek, in Almaty, in Santiago and Sana'a.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission IV at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

35 **Sofia Declaration¹**

The General Conference,

Recalling Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Also recalling 26 C/Resolution 4.3, in which it recognized ‘that a free, pluralistic and independent press is an essential component of any democratic society’, and invited the Director-General ‘to extend to other regions of the world the action ... to encourage press freedom and to promote the independence and pluralism of the media’,

Further recalling 27 C/Resolution 4.1 and in particular paragraph 2.A(a), inviting the Director-General ‘to promote the free flow of information at the international and national levels, press freedom, independent and pluralistic media, and a better balanced dissemination of information, without any obstacle to freedom of expression’,

Thanking the Director-General for having organized, in accordance with 28 C/Resolution 4.6, and in co-operation with the United Nations Department of Public Information and professional media organizations and with the assistance of a number of donor agencies, the European Seminar on Promoting Independent and Pluralistic Media (with special focus on Central and Eastern Europe) (Sofia (Bulgaria), 10-13 September 1997),

Stressing the outstanding importance of that Seminar, which will contribute to creating conditions that will enable pluralistic media to develop and participate effectively in the preservation of democracy and development in this region of the world,

1. *Endorses* the Sofia Declaration as it did the declarations adopted by participants in the seminars held in Windhoek (Namibia) (29 April-3 May 1991), in Almaty (Kazakhstan) (5-9 October 1992) and in Santiago (Chile) (2-6 May 1994);
2. *Invites* Member States and the organizations concerned to follow up and implement the Sofia Declaration and to contribute to the worldwide trends towards democracy, freedom of expression and press freedom;
3. *Requests* the Director-General to ensure that support and the required resources are given to activities that will facilitate the achievement of the goals and objectives of all the declarations, adopted by the seminars held in Windhoek, Almaty, Santiago, Sana’a and Sofia.

36 **Feasibility of an international instrument on the establishment of a legal framework relating to cyberspace and of a recommendation on the preservation of a balanced use of languages in cyberspace¹**

The General Conference,

Having examined the preliminary report submitted by the Director-General on the feasibility of an international instrument on the establishment of a legal framework relating to cyberspace and of a recommendation on the preservation of a balanced use of languages in cyberspace (29 C/23),

Taking into account the complexity and the diversity of the legal, ethical and societal issues raised by the global information infrastructure and the global information society,

Recognizing the urgent importance of establishing a framework relating to cyberspace at international level by formulating a body of educational, scientific and cultural principles and guidelines,

Convinced that UNESCO should be the organization of the United Nations system to take the intellectual lead in this area,

Stressing that full consideration and discussion should be devoted to all relevant aspects,

1. *Thanks* the Director-General for his preliminary report;
2. *Invites* the Director-General to continue the Organization’s work on legal, ethical and societal aspects of cyberspace and in particular:
 - (a) to pursue further consultation and collaboration with Member States, interested bodies and competent international organizations inside and outside the United Nations system, including the private sector;

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission IV at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

- (b) to prepare and organize regional and international meetings of experts to clarify policy priorities in line with the needs of Member States;
- (c) to report to the 30th session of the General Conference;
- (d) to prepare a draft recommendation on the provision of universal access to the multicultural heritage of humanity through the promotion and use of multilingualism in cyberspace to be submitted to the 30th session of the General Conference.

Transdisciplinary projects

37 Educating for a sustainable future¹

The General Conference

1. *Authorizes* the Director-General to implement this transdisciplinary project in accordance with the main lines of emphasis set out in document 29 C/5;
2. *Invites* the Director-General, in particular:
 - (a) to intensify, within the framework of the integrated follow-up to the major United Nations conferences, co-operation with the institutions of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as with donor agencies, with a view to developing concerted action in promoting public awareness of and education for a sustainable future; to contribute, in particular, to the follow-up of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and to the Work Programme on Chapter 36 of Agenda 21, adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development, by promoting innovative inter-agency joint action in selected countries, focused on reorienting formal and non-formal education and on building public awareness in favour of a sustainable future;
 - (b) to elaborate the concept and key messages of education for a sustainable future, focusing on interrelationships between environment, population and development issues and reflecting the key role of education in bringing about desirable changes in behaviour and lifestyles;
 - (c) to promote public awareness campaigns, using all modern means of communication, aimed at fostering a better understanding of environment, population and development issues and their interrelationships;
 - (d) to enhance Member States' capacity to elaborate educational policies and design actions aimed at integrating relevant components of education for a sustainable future at all levels of education, both formal and non-formal, in particular through new or reoriented curricula and teacher-training programmes;
 - (e) to strengthen the capacity of local authorities, youth, women and non-governmental organizations to promote education and public awareness activities in favour of a sustainable future at community and municipality levels.

38 Towards a culture of peace¹

The General Conference

1. *Authorizes* the Director-General to implement this transdisciplinary project in accordance with the main lines of emphasis set out in document 29 C/5;
2. *Invites* the Director-General, in particular:
 - A. Under Unit 1, 'Culture of peace: raising awareness and building partnerships', whose purpose is to promote better understanding and recognition of the principles, norms and conditions which are conducive to a culture of peace and to enhance information-sharing and partnerships between countries, institutions and groups engaged in initiatives for a culture of peace:

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission V at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

- (a) to encourage research on a number of themes of particular relevance to the further development of a culture of peace, particularly human rights and methods of conflict prevention and non-violent conflict management;
 - (b) to pursue the Organization's work of worldwide sensitization against intolerance, discrimination, racism and violence, paying particular attention to preventive action to combat discrimination and violence against women and children;
 - (c) to continue efforts to promote a better understanding of democratic principles and processes;
 - (d) to mobilize new partnerships in society to help promote a culture of peace, and to do this in close co-operation with the National Commissions and the appropriate government authorities;
 - (e) to give a major impulse to information and networking activities with a view to reinforcing communication with all partners engaged in activities promoting a culture of peace;
- B. Under Unit 2, 'Educating for a culture of peace', whose aim is to develop a comprehensive system of education and training for peace, human rights and democracy, international understanding and tolerance, embracing all levels of education, both formal and non-formal:
- (a) to encourage the drawing up of national strategies, plans of action and programmes for both formal and non-formal education at both school and university level, for peace, human rights, democracy, international understanding and tolerance;
 - (b) to lend fresh impetus, through the LINGUAPAX project, to linguistic diversity at all levels of education and to multilingualism in educational curricula and to assist in the further development of educational services in Member States in indigenous and minority languages;
 - (c) to give a fresh impulse to developing innovations in school curricula and educational contents and methods; to encourage the conclusion of agreements between neighbouring countries, or countries in conflict, for the revision of school textbooks on history and geography; and to continue to support the development of the network of UNESCO Chairs for peace, human rights and democracy and of the UNESCO International Network of Textbook Research Institutes;
 - (d) to continue to foster the elaboration and dissemination of educational materials and aids for both formal and non-formal education and to promote the participation of museums and similar institutions in fostering a better understanding of democratic processes;
 - (e) to support national institutions in developing human rights training programmes for educators and professionals with special responsibilities in this field;
 - (f) to give high priority to extending and improving the Associated Schools Project and encouraging it to set the pace in promoting educational innovation with respect to a culture of peace and solidarity among educational establishments;
 - (g) to mobilize the entire Organization and its partners in order to make a significant contribution to the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in 1998, and to focus efforts on educational and awareness-raising activities;
- C. Under Unit 3, 'Culture of peace in action', whose purpose is to contribute, through national, subregional, regional and interregional programmes and projects, to the creation of conditions conducive to reconciliation, intercultural understanding and long-term peace-building:
- (a) to pursue national culture of peace programmes under way and to provide the Organization's support to Member States wishing to launch new programmes;
 - (b) to provide, in the context of initiatives by the United Nations system, assistance to countries in emergency situations in ensuring the continuity of educational services and preparing the reconstruction of the education system;
 - (c) to give support, in pre-conflict, conflict and post-conflict situations, to independent local media providing non-partisan information and seeking to promote reconciliation, particularly in connection with the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa;
 - (d) to give support for the pursuit of a number of subregional and regional projects intended to facilitate intercultural or inter-ethnic dialogue;
 - (e) to contribute to the enhancement of the capabilities of indigenous peoples, under follow-up to the Plan of Action of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (1994-2004), particularly in Central America and in the rest of Latin America;
 - (f) to continue implementing intercultural projects aimed at highlighting the dynamics of interaction between cultures and civilizations and at promoting international understanding.

39 The Slave Route¹

The General Conference,

Recalling 27 C/Resolution 3.13 relating to the Slave Route,

Having noted the recommendations adopted by the International Scientific Committee for the project at its meetings in Matanzas, Cuba (December 1995) and Cabinda, Angola (November 1996),

Recalling further the decision of the Executive Board relating to the proclamation of an 'International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition' as well as 151 EX/Decision 5.1, paragraph 70,

Having been informed of the holding in Conakry (Guinea) in March 1997 of a symposium on the theme 'Oral Tradition and the Slave Trade' and of a survey undertaken by the Society of African Culture on 'Memories of Capture',

1. *Approves* the establishment, on a regional, subregional and thematic basis, of networks of scientific institutions for the implementation of the research programme of the project;
2. *Supports* the development of the joint UNESCO-WTO cultural tourism programme on the Slave Route, notably the selection of priority areas in Africa, the Americas and the Caribbean with a view to identifying, restoring and promoting sites, monuments, and places of memory associated with the slave trade;
3. *Notes with satisfaction* the significant contribution of the Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD) to the implementation of the activities of the Slave Route project relating to the production of teaching materials, the mobilization of Associated Schools, archives on the slave trade, the presentation of places of memory, the restoration of sites associated with the slave trade and the development of cultural and artistic programmes, in particular the creation of museums on slavery in the countries concerned and the establishment of an International Studies and Research Centre on the Diaspora and its Relations with Africa (CIERDA);
4. *Underlines* the need to pursue in an integrated way the three major objectives of the project: the historical study of the causes and workings of the transatlantic slave trade, the clarification of the consequences and interactions to which it gave rise, and the contribution of the project to the establishment of a culture of tolerance and peaceful coexistence between races and peoples;
5. *Invites* Member States, non-governmental organizations, the world intellectual community and the scientific institutions concerned to participate actively in and contribute to the implementation of the Slave Route in order to enhance the universal character of the project and the role it plays in intercultural dialogue in the spirit of the culture of peace;
6. *Invites* the Director-General:
 - (a) to take the necessary steps, in particular by mobilizing all sectors of the Organization, to ensure that the Slave Route, through its implementation and results, becomes a major project of intercultural dialogue under the transdisciplinary project 'Towards a culture of peace';
 - (b) to strengthen the resources made available to the project and to assist in mobilizing extrabudgetary resources.

40 International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition¹

The General Conference,

Bearing in mind 20 C/Resolution 4/1.2/7, adopted in 1978, which invites the Director-General to provide moral and material assistance towards the organization, each year, of a Black Peoples' Day,

Noting with interest the support expressed for the UNESCO Slave Route project by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) at its 28th session (Dakar, June 1992),

Recalling 27 C/Resolution 3.13 in which it approved the implementation of the intercultural and interregional project on the Slave Route,

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission V at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

Recalling also 28 C/Resolution 5.11 on the Slave Route and the proposal for the international commemoration of the slave trade,

1. *Endorses* the general approach and conception proposed by the Director-General in document 29 C/53 concerning the objectives and the programme for the commemoration and *approves* 150 EX/Decision 8.2;
2. *Proclaims* 23 August of every year 'International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition';
3. *Invites* Member States to give this international day all due prominence and to mobilize their educational, scientific, artistic and cultural communities, youth and, in general, civil society;
4. *Invites* the Director-General to ensure that the Organization is closely associated with this remembrance and that activities designed to further the values of tolerance, respect, acceptance and appreciation of the equal dignity of human beings and to promote intercultural dialogue are organized by UNESCO;
5. *Also invites* the Director-General to transmit this resolution to the United Nations Secretary-General with a request that he communicate it to the United Nations General Assembly with a view to the participation of United Nations Member States in this remembrance.

41 **Museum on the Slave Trade and Slavery¹**

The General Conference,

Recalling resolution 27 C/3.13 relating to the interregional project on the Slave Route,

Noting with satisfaction the interest shown in this project at the international level,

Welcoming the measures that have already been taken by the Organization and by many countries to implement it,

Noting that Haiti is actively participating in the work of implementation, specifically by setting up a national committee and by organizing, in December 1997, an international round table on the insurrection of 22 August 1791 in Saint-Domingue (now Haiti),

Considering that there is a need for a centre for meditation and remembrance to honour the memory of millions of men, women and children who were the victims of slavery, the slave trade and the resultant genocide - which constituted one of the greatest barbarities in the history of humanity,

Aware of the fact that Haiti was the first republic in the world to be established by former slaves, and *bearing in mind* the historic role played by that country in rejecting slavery,

Recognizing, therefore, the legitimacy of the initiative to set up in that country a museum on the slave trade and slavery within the framework of the Slave Route project,

Mindful of the fact that the implementation of this project opens up a whole range of possibilities of vital importance in particular for human rights, education, artistic creation and, generally, intellectual and scientific development,

Recalling, lastly, 151 EX/Decision 5.1 (A), paragraph 70, recommending that support be given, under the Programme and Budget for 1998-1999, to the project to establish a museum on slavery on the site of the Croix des Bossales Market,

1. *Welcomes* the particularly justified decision of Haiti to envisage building on its territory a Museum on the Slave Trade and Slavery;
2. *Invites* all Member States actively to support this initiative by taking part therein and contributing to its complete success;
3. *Authorizes* the Director-General to involve the Organization in raising extrabudgetary funds in order to bring the museum project to fruition;
4. *Invites* the Director-General to contribute, in addition, to the technical and material assistance needed by the Haitian 'Slave Route' Committee for setting up the museum, and *requests* him to submit to the Executive Board a report on the action taken to give effect to this resolution.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission V at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

42 UNESCO's contribution to the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹

The General Conference,

Recalling that 1998 will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which recognized the inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family as the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

Taking into consideration resolution 51/88 of the United Nations General Assembly by which the General Assembly called upon the United Nations agencies to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by intensifying their own contributions to United Nations system-wide efforts to promote and protect human rights,

Expressing its preoccupation that international human rights standards are not fully and universally respected and that many people are still deprived of the full enjoyment of their civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights,

Convinced that the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration should give a new impetus to the further promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

Recognizing that UNESCO should make an important contribution to the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Affirming UNESCO's leading role and responsibility in the promotion of human rights education,

Having considered the draft Plan of Action for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, approved by the Executive Board at its 152nd session,

1. *Endorses* the UNESCO Plan of Action for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
2. *Invites* the Director-General, in implementing the commemorative activities related to the fiftieth anniversary, to pay particular attention to the promotion of education for human rights, democracy, peace, international understanding and tolerance as well as to those rights which are within UNESCO's fields of competence, taking into account the priority needs of the countries in transition that have started along the path of democratic reform;
3. *Urges* Member States, governments, parliaments, national administrations and official representatives at all levels, all educational and academic institutions, universities and research centres, non-governmental organizations and national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, youth organizations, representatives of public, cultural and religious life, teachers and all those who are responsible for the education and training of children and youth, and journalists of all countries to contribute to the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary by undertaking activities in order to further promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms.

43 Draft Declaration on the Human Right to Peace¹

The General Conference,

Bearing in mind that, in accordance with the UNESCO Constitution, 'the purpose of the Organization is to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms ...',

Recalling resolution 5.12 adopted at its 28th session by which it recognized the promotion of a culture of peace as the expression of the fundamental mandate of UNESCO and as an essential and guiding objective of UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy for 1996-2001,

Acknowledging the intimate link between peace and human rights,

Taking note of Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which proclaims that 'everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person',

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission V at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

Considering that UNESCO's role of contributing to international peace through co-operation between nations in the fields of education, science, culture and communication lies at the very heart of the culture of peace,

Noting the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 15 December 1978 (resolution 33/73), which proclaimed that 'every nation and every human being, regardless of race, conscience, language or sex, has the inherent right to life in peace', the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace adopted by the General Assembly on 12 November 1984 (resolution 39/11) as well as other General Assembly resolutions concerning the implementation of the above declarations,

Taking into consideration the United Nations General Assembly resolution 50/173 of 22 December 1995 entitled 'United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education: towards a culture of peace' by which the General Assembly welcomed with appreciation UNESCO's transdisciplinary project 'Towards a culture of peace' and decided to encourage education for peace, human rights, democracy, international understanding and tolerance,

Recognizing that the absence of peace seriously impairs respect for human life and dignity and the full implementation of all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Bearing in mind the Draft Declaration on the Human Right to Peace elaborated by an international experts' meeting, organized by the Norwegian Institute for Human Rights (Oslo, Norway, 6-8 June 1997),

Bearing in mind also the 'Report by the Director-General on the human right to peace' (29 C/59),

1. *Shares* the motivations and ideas underlying the Draft Declaration;

2. *Invites* the Director-General:

- (a) to convene an international consultation of governmental experts to examine the matter in the light of the discussions that took place during the 29th session of the General Conference and of the replies of the Heads of State or Government;
- (b) to submit the results of this consultation to the Executive Board for examination at its 154th session within the framework of UNESCO's participation in the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in December 1998.

44 **Declaration on the Responsibilities of the Present Generations Towards Future Generations¹**

The General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, meeting in Paris from 21 October to 12 November 1997 at its 29th session,

Mindful of the will of the peoples, set out solemnly in the Charter of the United Nations, to 'save succeeding generations from the scourge of war' and to safeguard the values and principles enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and all other relevant instruments of international law,

Considering the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, both adopted on 16 December 1966, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted on 20 November 1989,

Concerned by the fate of future generations in the face of the vital challenges of the next millennium,

Conscious that, at this point in history, the very existence of humankind and its environment are threatened,

Stressing that full respect for human rights and ideals of democracy constitute an essential basis for the protection of the needs and interests of future generations,

Asserting the necessity for establishing new, equitable and global links of partnership and intra-generational solidarity, and for promoting inter-generational solidarity for the perpetuation of humankind,

Recalling that the responsibilities of the present generations towards future generations have already been referred to in various instruments such as the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO on 16 November 1972, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity, adopted in Rio de Janeiro on 5 June 1992, the Rio

1. Adopted on the report of Commission V at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

Declaration on Environment and Development, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development on 14 June 1992, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993, and the United Nations General Assembly resolutions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations adopted since 1990,

Determined to contribute towards the solution of current world problems through increased international co-operation, to create such conditions as will ensure that the needs and interests of future generations are not jeopardized by the burden of the past, and to hand on a better world to future generations,

Resolved to strive to ensure that the present generations are fully aware of their responsibilities towards future generations,

Recognizing that the task of protecting the needs and interests of future generations, particularly through education, is fundamental to the ethical mission of UNESCO, whose Constitution enshrines the ideals of 'justice and liberty and peace' founded on 'the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind',

Bearing in mind that the fate of future generations depends to a great extent on decisions and actions taken today, and that present-day problems, including poverty, technological and material underdevelopment, unemployment, exclusion, discrimination and threats to the environment, must be solved in the interests of both present and future generations,

Convinced that there is a moral obligation to formulate behavioural guidelines for the present generations within a broad, future-oriented perspective,

**Solemnly proclaims on this twelfth day of November 1997
this Declaration on the Responsibilities of the Present Generations
Towards Future Generations**

Article 1 - Needs and interests of future generations

The present generations have the responsibility of ensuring that the needs and interests of present and future generations are fully safeguarded.

Article 2 - Freedom of choice

It is important to make every effort to ensure, with due regard to human rights and fundamental freedoms, that future as well as present generations enjoy full freedom of choice as to their political, economic and social systems and are able to preserve their cultural and religious diversity.

Article 3 - Maintenance and perpetuation of humankind

The present generations should strive to ensure the maintenance and perpetuation of humankind with due respect for the dignity of the human person. Consequently, the nature and form of human life must not be undermined in any way whatsoever.

Article 4 - Preservation of life on Earth

The present generations have the responsibility to bequeath to future generations an Earth which will not one day be irreversibly damaged by human activity. Each generation inheriting the Earth temporarily should take care to use natural resources reasonably and ensure that life is not prejudiced by harmful modifications of the ecosystems and that scientific and technological progress in all fields does not harm life on Earth.

Article 5 - Protection of the environment

1. In order to ensure that future generations benefit from the richness of the Earth's ecosystems, the present generations should strive for sustainable development and preserve living conditions, particularly the quality and integrity of the environment.
2. The present generations should ensure that future generations are not exposed to pollution which may endanger their health or their existence itself.

3. The present generations should preserve for future generations natural resources necessary for sustaining human life and for its development.
4. The present generations should take into account possible consequences for future generations of major projects before these are carried out.

Article 6 - Human genome and biodiversity

The human genome, in full respect of the dignity of the human person and human rights, must be protected and biodiversity safeguarded. Scientific and technological progress should not in any way impair or compromise the preservation of the human and other species.

Article 7 - Cultural diversity and cultural heritage

With due respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, the present generations should take care to preserve the cultural diversity of humankind. The present generations have the responsibility to identify, protect and safeguard the tangible and intangible cultural heritage and to transmit this common heritage to future generations.

Article 8 - Common heritage of humankind

The present generations may use the common heritage of humankind, as defined in international law, provided that this does not entail compromising it irreversibly.

Article 9 - Peace

1. The present generations should ensure that both they and future generations learn to live together in peace, security, respect for international law, human rights and fundamental freedoms.
2. The present generations should spare future generations the scourge of war. To that end, they should avoid exposing future generations to the harmful consequences of armed conflicts as well as all other forms of aggression and use of weapons, contrary to humanitarian principles.

Article 10 - Development and education

1. The present generations should ensure the conditions of equitable, sustainable and universal socio-economic development of future generations, both in its individual and collective dimensions, in particular through a fair and prudent use of available resources for the purpose of combating poverty.
2. Education is an important instrument for the development of human persons and societies. It should be used to foster peace, justice, understanding, tolerance and equality for the benefit of present and future generations.

Article 11 - Non-discrimination

The present generations should refrain from taking any action or measure which would have the effect of leading to or perpetuating any form of discrimination for future generations.

Article 12 - Implementation

1. States, the United Nations system, other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, individuals, public and private bodies should assume their full responsibilities in promoting, in particular through education, training and information, respect for the ideals laid down in this Declaration, and encourage by all appropriate means their full recognition and effective application.
2. In view of UNESCO's ethical mission, the Organization is requested to disseminate the present Declaration as widely as possible, and to undertake all necessary steps in its fields of competence to raise public awareness concerning the ideals enshrined therein.

45 Follow-up to the United Nations Year for Tolerance¹

The General Conference,

Having examined the report of the Director-General on the activities with regard to tolerance implemented by UNESCO since the adoption by the General Conference at its 28th session, on 16 November 1995, of the Declaration of Principles on Tolerance and of the Plan of Action to follow up the United Nations Year for Tolerance, submitted in document 29 C/56 in accordance with 151 EX/Decision 9.1.1,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the activities carried out by UNESCO and the Member States in accordance with the above-mentioned Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action and *encourages* Member States to pursue projects aimed at promoting a spirit of tolerance and non-violence in relations between states, communities and individuals;
2. *Invites* the Director-General to give a high priority to the promotion of tolerance and non-violence during the next biennium in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the governing bodies of UNESCO and resolutions 49/213 and 51/95 of the United Nations General Assembly.

46 Establishment of an International Institute of Comparative Civilizations at Takshaschila (Taxila), Pakistan¹

The General Conference,

Recalling 28 C/Resolution 3.7 in which it requested the Director-General to help Pakistan undertake a feasibility study on the establishment of an International Institute of Comparative Civilizations at Takshaschila (Taxila) and to submit the findings of that study to the Executive Board,

Noting the recommendations made by the Executive Board at its 151st session (151 EX/Decision 3.3.3),

Having examined the study and the details worked out by the Director-General regarding the practical aspects, including funding and the precise nature of affiliation with the International Institute for Central Asian Studies in Samarkand (29 C/55),

1. *Considers* the information provided by the Director-General to be satisfactory at this stage;
2. *Also considers* that the establishment of such an institute is both feasible and highly desirable;
3. *Invites* the Director-General to continue to contribute to the establishment of the Institute, and also to raise funds from the sources mentioned in paragraph 19 of document 29 C/55;
4. *Invites* Member States to contribute financially and technically to the establishment of the Institute.

47 Communication in the service of democracy¹

The General Conference,

Considering the relevant paragraphs of the international instruments regarding the freedom of expression and of communication,

Taking into account the role played by communication in establishing and maintaining democratic procedures,

Stressing that such a role has been affirmed in many international instruments drafted within UNESCO or with the support of UNESCO,

1. *Invites* the Director-General and Member States to support and finance as a priority and especially in the countries affected by recent armed conflicts all measures for the improvement of communication aimed at restoring democracy;
2. *Asks* the interested governments and the international community to facilitate and improve all infrastructures and communication systems in the above-mentioned areas with the aim of ensuring the possibility of communication at both official and private level.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission V at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

48 **The contribution of religion to the establishment of a culture of peace and the promotion of interreligious dialogue¹**

The General Conference,

Taking into account the role of religion in consolidating in society moral values, tolerance, social optimism, the furtherance of intercultural dialogue and civil peace,

Bearing in mind that religion is part of the culture of peoples,

Having regard to UNESCO's efforts aimed at shaping a culture of peace and strengthening mutual understanding between nations, groups of people and individuals of different confessions,

Considering that the approach of the two thousandth anniversary of the birth of Christ is an event of huge significance for the entire Christian world,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to do everything in their power to create the conditions necessary for freedom of conscience and religion which is an important factor in strengthening the principles of democracy, justice, tolerance and pluralism in society;
2. *Invites* the Director-General:
 - (a) to envisage under the programme activities of the Organization, particularly within the framework of the transdisciplinary project 'Towards a culture of peace', of the 'Roads of Faith' project and of other major programmes, activities concerning the contribution of religion to the establishment of a culture of peace and the promotion of interreligious dialogue;
 - (b) to support national, subregional and regional projects carried out in celebration of the two thousandth anniversary of the birth of Christ with a view to fostering intercultural and interreligious dialogue.

Transverse activities

49 **Statistical programmes and services¹**

The General Conference

1. *Authorizes* the Director-General to continue his efforts to improve and expand international statistical information and indicators in UNESCO's fields of competence, including gender sensitive statistics, with a view to increasing their quality and policy-relevance, in conformity with the main lines of emphasis set out in document 29 C/5 and to start the transformation of the Division of Statistics into a UNESCO International Institute for Statistics, in accordance with the provisions of 29 C/Resolution 50;
2. *Invites* the Director-General, in particular:
 - (a) to contribute to the development of common definitions and standards, devoting special attention to facilitating the application by Member States of the revised International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED);
 - (b) to accord the highest priority to reconstituting a high-quality and easily accessible database, containing a critical mass of policy-relevant data in education, science, culture and communication, including gender sensitive data, to develop for that purpose a participatory methodology so as to ensure closer interaction with policy-makers and data providers; to improve and diversify the Organization's statistical publications, including the *UNESCO Statistical Yearbook*;
 - (c) to co-operate with organizations in the United Nations system and other organizations in developing new data and indicators concerning the Organization's fields of competence, particular attention being given to the definition of appropriate gender sensitive indicators in collaboration with relevant United Nations agencies and other institutions by way of an expert meeting;
 - (d) to mobilize international, regional and subregional co-operation with a view to strengthening the statistical capacities and infrastructure of Member States as regards data collection and analysis in

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission V at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

the Organization's fields of competence, particularly in Africa and the least developed countries; in this context to continue organizing (sub)regional training workshops on gender sensitive statistics;

- (e) to secure the active involvement of Member States in formulating and monitoring the UNESCO statistical programme and to promote the participation and active support of interested partners (United Nations institutions such as UNDP, UNICEF and the World Bank, and intergovernmental organizations, in particular the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and development agencies);
- (f) to ensure that the operational framework of the future UNESCO International Institute for Statistics takes the specific needs for developing knowledge and competence on gender statistics and indicators seriously into account.

50 **Strategic plan for the strengthening of UNESCO's statistical programmes and services¹**

The General Conference,

Noting the increasing demand from Member States and the international community for diversified, timely, reliable and policy-relevant statistical products and services in all UNESCO's fields of competence,

Conscious of the necessity to improve the statistical information base required to facilitate the monitoring of progress towards the goals set at major world conferences,

Considering the need to reinforce linkages with national statistical services and interested partner agencies, as well as to develop a highly participatory and interactive approach for the identification of indicators and for the collection and production of data, so as to guarantee their quality and their value to those formulating and evaluating policy,

Reaffirming that the central mission of UNESCO is to service both the Member States and the international community by providing quality statistical information in support of policy-making and of programme formulation and monitoring in the areas of education, science, culture and communication,

Convinced that in order to fulfil its mission, UNESCO should focus on:

- (a) supporting the development of statistical and related analytical capacities in Member States,
- (b) fostering professional consensus with respect to international standards of statistical quality and reliability,
- (c) ensuring the worldwide collection, production, analysis and dissemination of reliable, policy-relevant data and indicators on education, science, culture and communication,
- (d) fostering the production of analytical studies aimed at facilitating the quantitative and qualitative assessment of the current situation and future prospects in UNESCO's fields of action,

Aware of the need to reorient and upgrade UNESCO's statistical services in order to respond appropriately to the new demands and challenges, and to enforce high standards of accuracy and timeliness of data,

Noting that the strategic plan proposed by the Director-General to strengthen UNESCO's statistical services has been prepared on the basis of in-depth consultations held with various experts from Member States and representatives of United Nations institutions and development agencies,

Taking into account 152 EX/Decision 3.2,

1. *Authorizes* the Director-General to commence, on an experimental basis, the establishment of structures and mechanisms aimed at transforming the Division of Statistics into a UNESCO International Institute for Statistics, with a view to formally adopting the Statutes of the Institute at its 30th session;

2. *Invites* the Director-General:

- (a) to carry out further consultations with national and international statistical institutes;
- (b) taking into account the results of these consultations, to submit to the Executive Board, at its 154th session, for approval, a detailed report and proposals on the Institute's objectives, work programme and administrative, managerial and financial aspects.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission V at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

51 Participation Programme¹

The General Conference

I

Authorizes the Director-General to participate in the activities of Member States in accordance with the following principles and conditions:

A. Principles

1. The Participation Programme is one of the means employed by the Organization to achieve its objectives, through participation in activities carried out by Member States or Associate Members, or by territories, organizations or institutions, in its fields of competence. This participation is designed to strengthen the partnership between UNESCO and its Member States and make that partnership more effective through a sharing of contributions.
2. Each Member State may submit through its National Commission or, where there is no National Commission, through a designated government channel, up to 15 requests. These requests should show an order of priority numbered from 1 to 15, it being understood that not all the requests submitted will necessarily be approved. International non-governmental organizations, intergovernmental organizations and other international organizations may submit up to five requests showing an order of priority from 1 to 5 and here as well not all the requests submitted will necessarily be approved. Each request must be related to the activities of the Organization, as described under the sections of the Approved Programme and Budget concerned with major programmes, transdisciplinary projects and transverse activities, and co-operation with National Commissions. Member States are requested to ensure that a sufficient number of projects specifically devoted to women are submitted under this Programme.
3. Assistance under the Participation Programme may be accorded only upon: (a) a written request to the Director-General by the National Commissions or, where there is no National Commission, through a designated government channel, of Member States or of Associate Members or by territories, organizations or institutions, intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations maintaining official relations with UNESCO, and (b) a written agreement between the parties concerned specifying the form and manner of participation and acceptance of the conditions listed under section B below, together with such other conditions as may be jointly agreed upon.
4. In order to achieve more rapid implementation and with a view to still better management of the Participation Programme, a strict deadline for submission of requests has been set for 27 February 1998.
5. *Beneficiaries.* Assistance under the Participation Programme may be accorded to:
 - (a) Member States or Associate Members upon request through their National Commissions or, where there is no National Commission, through a designated government channel, to promote activities of a national character. For activities of a subregional, regional or interregional character, requests are submitted by the National Commissions of the Member States or Associate Members on whose territory they take place. These requests must be supported by at least two other National Commissions of participating Member States or Associate Members;
 - (b) a non-self-governing or trust territory, upon the request of the National Commission of the Member State responsible for the conduct of the territory's external relations;
 - (c) a national institution, upon a request by the National Commission of the Member State or Associate Member in whose territory it is situated;
 - (d) an intergovernmental or other international organization which has signed a co-operation agreement with UNESCO, where the participation relates to activities of direct interest to several Member States;
 - (e) an international non-governmental organization maintaining formal or operational relations with UNESCO, upon a request endorsed by the National Commission of the Member State or Associate Member in whose territory the planned activity is to be carried out; the request must be supported by the National Commissions of at least two Member States;

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission V at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

- (f) an international non-governmental institution having no official relations with UNESCO, upon a request submitted on its behalf by the National Commission of the Member State in whose territory it is situated; such requests must be supported by at least two National Commissions of other participating Member States;
 - (g) the Permanent Observer of Palestine to UNESCO, where the participation requested relates to activities in UNESCO's fields of competence of direct interest to Palestinians.
6. *Forms of assistance.* Assistance under the Participation Programme may comprise the provision of:
- (a) the services of specialists and consultants;
 - (b) fellowships and study grants;
 - (c) publications, periodicals and documentation;
 - (d) equipment (other than vehicles);
 - (e) conferences and meetings, seminars and training courses: translation and interpretation services, participants' travel costs, the services of consultants, and other services deemed necessary by all concerned (not including UNESCO staff members);
 - (f) financial contributions, if the Director-General determines that this is the most effective and expedient means of implementing the activity in question, and provided that the amount, except in cases of emergency assistance specifically decided on by the Director-General, is not in excess of \$26,000 for a national project or activity and \$35,000 for a subregional, regional or interregional project or activity; and that the financial provision made by the applicant is sufficient to execute the activity satisfactorily.
7. *Approval of requests.* When deciding upon a request the Director-General shall take into account:
- (a) the total amount approved by the General Conference for this Programme;
 - (b) the contribution that such participation can effectively make to the attainment of Member States' objectives in UNESCO's fields of competence and within the framework of the programme activities approved by the General Conference, to which participation must be closely linked;
 - (c) the needs of developing countries as well as the four priority groups: women, youth, African Member States and least developed countries;
 - (d) the need to achieve equitable geographical distribution of the participation provided;
 - (e) subventions or funding for each approved project should, to the extent possible, be allocated no later than 30 days before the date set for the start of the implementation of the project concerned.
8. *Implementation:*
- (a) the Participation Programme will be implemented within the biennial programme of the Organization, of which it forms an integral part. Implementation of a request is the responsibility of the National Commission of a Member State, Associate Member or other applicant. The request submitted to the Director-General must show specific scheduled commencement and termination dates; an effort has been made to rationalize and simplify implementation procedures for the Participation Programme. Field units will endeavour to help Member States that so wish to draw up their requests in a manner which will enable them to be processed more effectively;
 - (b) the achievements of the Participation Programme must be made more widely known with a view to the planning and implementation of the Organization's future activities. The evaluation reports, submitted after completion of each project by Member States, will be useful to the Secretariat for this purpose.

B. Conditions

9. Assistance under the Participation Programme will be provided only if the applicant, when sending in the written requests to the Director-General, accepts the following conditions. The applicant shall:
- (a) assume full financial and administrative responsibility for implementing the plans and programmes for which participation is provided; in the case of a financial contribution, submit to the Director-General at the close of the project an itemized statement accounting for the activities executed and certifying that the funds allocated have been used for the implementation of the project, and return to UNESCO any balance not used for project purposes; it is to be understood that no new financial contribution will be paid until the applicant has submitted all the financial reports and all the additional supporting documents necessary in respect of contributions previously approved by the Director-General and for

- which the funds were obligated prior to 31 December of the first year of the previous budgetary period;
- (b) undertake to provide on a compulsory basis, together with the financial report mentioned in subparagraph (a) above, an evaluation report on the results of the activities financed and their usefulness for the Member State or States and UNESCO;
 - (c) pay, where participation is accorded in the form of study grants, the cost of the grant-holders' passports, visas, medical examinations and salaries while they are abroad, if they are in receipt of a salary; help them find suitable employment when they return to their country of origin;
 - (d) maintain and insure against all risks any property supplied by UNESCO, from the time of its arrival at the point of delivery;
 - (e) undertake to cover UNESCO against any claim or liability resulting from the activities provided for in this resolution, except where it is agreed by UNESCO and the National Commission of the Member State concerned that such claim or liability arises from gross negligence or wilful misconduct;
 - (f) grant to personnel recruited under the Participation Programme who are officials of UNESCO the privileges and immunities set out in Articles VI and VII of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies; it shall grant to personnel recruited under the Participation Programme who are not officials of UNESCO the privileges and immunities provided for in paragraph 3 of Annex IV to the aforementioned Convention, it being understood that additional privileges and immunities may be granted in supplementary agreements concluded with the Director-General; no restriction should be imposed upon the rights of entry, sojourn and departure of the persons mentioned in the present subparagraph.

C. Emergency aid

10. Where emergency aid is concerned, the following conditions and principles are to be observed:
- (a) faced with an emergency situation, the Director-General shall take the initiative of informing the Member State through the National Commission, so far as possible, that he has earmarked a certain sum for immediate assistance and suggest as appropriate the forms (with options) that such assistance could take;
 - (b) the National Commission or the government shall then cable its choice of assistance or suggest suitable alternatives;
 - (c) in the case of services or goods to be supplied by UNESCO there shall be no international competitive bidding, owing to the urgency of requirements;
 - (d) in the case of financial contributions, neither the US \$26,000 nor the US \$35,000 limit shall apply; the emergency aid shall be paid even if financial reports have not yet been submitted; an itemized financial report certifying that the funds allocated have been used for the purposes approved shall subsequently be submitted by the Member State and any balance not used for project purposes shall be returned to UNESCO.

II

Invites the Director-General:

1. To consult, in accordance with UNESCO's decentralization policy, the National Commissions or, where there is no National Commission, through a designated government channel, before introducing changes in the order of priority of the requests submitted by Member States;
2. To communicate without delay, in order to enhance the presentation, follow-up and evaluation of the projects submitted under the Participation Programme, to the National Commissions or, where there is no National Commission, through a designated government channel, the reasons for modifying or denying the requested amounts;
3. To inform the National Commissions or, where there is no National Commission, a designated government channel, of all projects and activities undertaken by non-governmental or other organizations in their respective countries with support from the Participation Programme;
4. To provide to every session of the Executive Board a report including the following information:
 - (a) list of applications for contributions from the Participation Programme received in the Secretariat;
 - (b) list of applications approved for each Member State;

- (c) list of financial contributions from the Participation Programme to Member States accorded by the Director-General under C. Emergency aid;
- 5. To strengthen the operational efficiency of the Participation Programme Unit;
- 6. To submit proposals, in preparing draft document 30 C/5, on significant increases in the Participation Programme budget line, taking into consideration the necessity to better meet the needs of Member States and to reduce the number of draft resolutions submitted to the General Conference;
- 7. To ensure that the Participation Programme's administrative procedures continue to be made more efficient; the achievements of the Participation Programme must be made more widely known and be more widely used with a view to the planning and implementation of the Organization's future activities.

IV General resolutions

52 Request for the admission of Palestine to UNESCO¹

The General Conference,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning the request for the admission of Palestine to UNESCO, *Having examined* the report by the Director-General (29 C/50 Rev.),

1. *Thanks* the Director-General, who has spared no effort to increase the participation of the Palestinian Authorities in UNESCO's programmes and activities;
2. *Expresses the hope* that it will be able to consider this item at its next session, in the light of the progress made in the peace process;
3. *Decides* to include this item in the agenda of its 30th session.

53 Poverty alleviation²

The General Conference,

Considering that it is urgent, for the sake of peace and sustainable development for all, to respond to the challenge of extreme poverty to which millions of human beings are condemned,

Bearing in mind resolution 50/107 of the United Nations General Assembly, in which it proclaimed the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006),

Recalling 28 C/Resolution 3.2 on the World Decade for Cultural Development and in particular paragraphs 3(a) and 4(c) relating to families and population groups in situations of extreme poverty and social exclusion,

Taking into consideration resolution 1997/11 on 'Human rights and extreme poverty', adopted on 3 April 1997 by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, in which it invited the bodies and Specialized Agencies of the United Nations to 'take account of the contradictions between the existence of situations of extreme poverty and exclusion from society, which must be overcome, and the duty to guarantee full enjoyment of human rights',

Considering the important role played by culture, education, information and communication and by the various social sciences in action to combat extreme poverty,

Recalling the recommendation adopted by the Intergovernmental Committee of the World Decade for Cultural Development at its session in April 1997 on the culture and development theme in UNESCO's programme,

Noting with interest the attention given to this matter in many of the activities proposed under the Organization's programme for 1998-1999,

Wishing, nevertheless, that the matter be accorded high priority and presented in a coherent fashion,

1. *Urges* the Member States of UNESCO, governmental and non-governmental organizations and international, national and private institutions:

1. Resolution adopted at the 2nd plenary meeting, on 21 October 1997.

2. Resolution adopted on the reports of Commissions II to V at the 26th and 27th plenary meetings, on 11 and 12 November 1997.

- (a) to ensure that the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty is a success and satisfies the aspirations of all those throughout the world who are victims of poverty and exclusion;
 - (b) to ensure in particular that cultural development (culture, education and communication) is accorded a prominent position in the activities of the Decade;
2. *Invites* the Director-General:
- (a) to increase in all UNESCO's programmes recognition and awareness of the cultural dimension of development as a necessary condition for reaching families and population groups in situations of extreme poverty, in an effort to meet the goals of the Copenhagen World Summit for Social Development and of the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty;
 - (b) to mobilize all units of the Organization, requesting them in the execution of the four major programmes, transdisciplinary projects and transverse activities to accord high priority to the issue of extreme poverty, ensuring in particular that population groups in situations of extreme poverty and social exclusion are effectively reached.

54 Focus on the Pacific¹

The General Conference,

Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 45/202 adopted in 1991, which identified the need for 'specific measures in favour of island developing countries',

Further recalling Agenda 21 and Principle 1 of the Rio Declaration of 1992, which states that 'human beings are the centre of concern of sustainable development',

Recalling also the Programme of Action adopted by the forty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly arising out of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held in Barbados, in 1994,

Recalling lastly 27 C/Resolution 13.11 calling for 'co-operation with small Member States',

Recognizing the commitment in paragraph 216 of the Medium-Term Strategy for 1996-2001 to devising and applying specific strategies to meet the special and urgent needs of certain groups of countries with common characteristics such as, *inter alia*, small island states,

Taking into account the recommendations of the eleventh Regional Conference of UNESCO National Commissions in Asia and the Pacific, held in the Maldives from 30 June to 4 July 1996, calling on the Director-General to acknowledge the special needs of small island states and inviting him to enhance the resources and role of UNESCO's Section for Relations with Small Member States,

Bearing in mind that 151 EX/Decision 6.3 invited the Director-General to take appropriate measures to reinforce the human, financial and technical resources in all the offices in the Asia and the Pacific region, and further invited him to ensure that the overall level of funding in the region is further strengthened in view of the complexity and diversity of the region,

Recognizing the growth in UNESCO membership in the Pacific from five to 14 Member States since the UNESCO Office for the Pacific States was opened in Apia in 1984, and that four of these Member States (Samoa, Vanuatu, Kiribati and Tuvalu) are among the least developed countries, identified as a priority group under the Medium-Term Strategy,

Considering that the Pacific Ocean covers one third of the globe and that, while it constitutes a rich source of life for the island states within it, its vast extent signifies ever-present problems of isolation, in particular as regards transport and communication both within the Pacific and between the island states and the outside world,

Conscious that small island states of the Pacific share a number of specific characteristics, among them:

- a rich cultural and linguistic heritage,
- some of the world's highest rates of illiteracy,
- a shortage of skilled human resources,
- vulnerability to the effects of global warming and to natural disasters, such as cyclones and volcanic eruptions,
- increasing urban migration with accompanying social problems,

1. Resolution adopted on the reports of Commissions II to V at the 26th and 27th plenary meetings, on 11 and 12 November 1997.

- the significant alienation of youth,
- limited infrastructural development in key areas such as broadcasting and telecommunications,
- the increasingly negative impact on traditional values of external values through the culture of the screen,

Recognizing that the issue for the small island states of the Pacific is their very high degree of vulnerability and low threshold of susceptibility to changes and risks - social, economic and environmental, natural and human-made hazards, and globalization - due to their isolation, smallness, openness and fragile environment, the geographic dispersion of their territory and their high population growth with rather limited resources,

Acknowledging that Focus on the Pacific, which marks the beginning of consultative meetings on the needs of small states - to be followed by Focus on the Caribbean, is a continuation of the UNESCO process of consultation (for example, the E-9 Initiative of nine high-population countries, Audience Africa and others), which has been fully endorsed by previous conferences,

Noting with deep appreciation the solidarity of the Member States of the Asia and the Pacific region in the interests of one and all, at national, subregional and regional level and the generous expression of support by Member States in the Executive Board and at the 29th session of the General Conference,

Acknowledging UNESCO's previous contribution to the development of the Pacific in the fields of education, science, culture and communication and the recent positive assessments of the effectiveness of the UNESCO Office of the Pacific States in Apia,

Welcoming the allocations already contained in document 29 C/5 for the Pacific, in particular for continuation of the Vaka Moana programme, the development of communication, the special project on 'Youth leadership for a culture of peace in the Pacific', and participation in activities under the project on 'Environment and development in coastal regions and in small islands',

Recognizing, however, that there continue to be areas of urgent need in the Pacific within UNESCO's spheres of competence not yet adequately addressed by the Organization, which require urgent attention in documents 29 C/5 and 30 C/5, including:

Education for development: enhancing quality living

- education for functional literacy
- educational reform for quality lifelong education for all, from primary education to higher education, but especially in secondary education
- development of science education and of vocational and technical education
- education and training of women and youth
- delivery of education and training through various forms of distance education
- the Associated Schools Project
- culture of maintenance

Environment and development: sharing with the Pacific of tomorrow

- scientific research (both natural and social science) on environmental issues, ocean resources and management, renewable and alternative energy sources and small island and coastal areas management
- sustainable development
- hydrology and water resources and management
- culture of prevention in terms of natural and human-made hazards and disasters
- environmental science education
- development of scientific and technological capacities and capabilities

Culture and development: our heritage and legacy for the future

- preservation and maintenance of the Pacific's endangered historical, cultural, linguistic and natural heritage
- development of the world cultural heritage programme and continuation of the Vaka Moana project
- cultural identity, social transformation and globalization
- research and development of the pre-history and history of the Pacific
- culture of peace
- youth volunteers in heritage programmes

Social transformation and human development

- development of the Pacific's most precious resource: people
- development of youth and sports programmes and databases
- construction of a network for social research and action

- capacity-building, including training in social science methodology
- urban migration and urban planning
- population change, family structures and migration flows
- poverty reduction, including micro-credit programmes
- coping with globalization

Communication and information for development: participation and freedom of choice

- access to appropriate communication and information technologies which have the potential, through capacity-building, to reduce isolation, facilitate the transfer of knowledge and promote regional co-operation in and across all areas of UNESCO's mandate
- continuation of education and training for the development of indigenous media
- development of libraries and archives through communication and information technologies
- development of youth and sports databases at the University of the South Pacific
- utilization of modern communication and information technologies for the provision of education and training,

1. *Requests* the Director-General:

- (a) to incorporate into document 29 C/5 action to address these areas of urgent need including *inter alia*:
 - (i) restoration of the funding allocation to the UNESCO Office for the Pacific States in Apia under Major Programme I to at least the level of funding under document 28 C/5 Approved;
 - (ii) the decentralization of funds to the UNESCO Apia Office under Programme IV.2 to enable it to undertake activities relating to the development of information services (para. 04038); the upgrading of archival services (para. 04040); and the expansion of access to global information flows and the training of computer specialists, trainers and users (para. 04047);
 - (iii) increased decentralization of the programmes of the education institutes;
 - (iv) increased decentralization of activities under the transdisciplinary project 'Educating for a sustainable future';
- (b) to continue in document 30 C/5 to address these urgent needs of the Pacific in accordance with the outcome of the Focus on the Pacific process, by undertaking the activities identified in the Plan of Action;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Director-General for initiating the Focus on the Pacific process in 1997;

3. *Notes* that the Pacific Member States of UNESCO, meeting at Nuku'alofa, Tonga, from 18 to 22 August 1997, welcomed the opportunity to participate in the Focus on the Pacific meeting;

4. *Invites* the Director-General to take measures:

- (a) to establish a Pacific-UNESCO Joint Committee, and in full consultation and co-operation with Pacific Member States and their National Commissions, develop a plan of action for a sustainable future for the small island states of the Pacific in the areas of the mandate of the Organization along the lines of the Focus on the Pacific meeting, held on 1 November 1997 at Headquarters;
- (b) to mobilize resources, where possible, for the implementation of the plan of action and to ensure that UNESCO, as the lead agency, implements the plan of action, in co-operation with the Pacific development partners;
- (c) to ensure that the UNESCO Office for the Pacific States plays a central role in the formulation and implementation of the plan of action, supported by the Division for Relations with National Commissions and the Section for Relations with Small Member States and assisted, where appropriate, by the Asia-Pacific Regional Offices;
- (d) to strengthen the human resources of the UNESCO Office for the Pacific States and the Section for Relations with Small Member States to a level commensurate with effective implementation of the plan of action;
- (e) to strengthen existing Pacific National Commissions in terms of training and equipment, and assist in the establishment of National Commissions where these do not exist to enable them to play their key role in the implementation of the plan of action;
- (f) to encourage and ensure greater utilization of the Participation Programme for and by Pacific Member States as a means of increasing their participation in UNESCO activities and to grant requests from Pacific Member States along the lines agreed to in the Focus on the Pacific meeting;
- (g) to report on progress in the implementation of the plan of action to the Executive Board at its 154th and 155th sessions and to the 30th session of the General Conference.

55 Implementation of 28 C/Resolution 16 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories¹

The General Conference,

Having examined the report of the Director-General (29 C/13 and Add. and Corr.),

1. *Expresses its entire satisfaction and thanks* to the Director-General for his ceaseless efforts to ensure the effective application of 28 C/Resolution 16;
2. *Expresses its deep concern* at the lack of progress of the peace process, which is threatening peace in the Middle East and hindering co-operation in education, science, technology and culture between the countries of the region;
3. *Invites* the Director-General to attend to the regular functioning of educational institutions in the occupied Arab territories by making sure that they are not obstructed in their activities;
4. *Expresses the hope* that the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations will be resumed and that a just and global peace will be speedily brought about in accordance with the United Nations resolutions to which UNESCO adheres, particularly Security Council resolutions 242, 338 and 425, based on withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the principle of land for peace;
5. *Considers* that UNESCO's action in favour of the Palestinian people is of major importance and gives the Organization an important role within the United Nations system in peace-making and peace-building and in the promotion of dialogue between peoples;
6. *Expresses its sincere gratitude and thanks* to the Member States, in particular Saudi Arabia, Italy and Norway, for their financial contributions to the projects of the Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (PAPP);
7. *Urges* the Director-General to implement a programme seeking to build peace and the culture of peace in the region;
8. *Invites* the Director-General:
 - (a) to continue his efforts to guarantee freedom of movement to the Palestinian students of Gaza in order to enable them to attend their colleges and universities in the West Bank, and to ensure that the same facilities are accorded to Palestinian students from the West Bank studying in Gaza;
 - (b) to support the five-year plan drawn up by the Palestinian 'Ministry of Education', in close collaboration with donor states, the Palestinian authorities concerned and international institutions and agencies;
 - (c) to give greater support to the Palestinian 'Ministry of Culture' to support the establishment of the Palestinian Museum in Bethlehem and to help the 'Ministry' by providing the equipment it needs;
 - (d) to support the Palestinian 'Ministry of Higher Education' and its Rationalization Plan for 1997-2001;
 - (e) to speed up the creation of a fund for higher education fellowships;
 - (f) to continue his efforts among donor states to obtain the necessary funding for the implementation of projects decided upon by the UNESCO/Palestinian Authority Co-ordinating Committee;
9. *Also invites* the Director-General:
 - (a) to continue the efforts he is making vis-à-vis the Israeli authorities with a view to preserving the human and social fabric and safeguarding the Syrian Arab cultural identity of the occupied Syrian Golan, in accordance with the relevant resolutions adopted in this regard;
 - (b) to continue his efforts vis-à-vis the Israeli authorities so that they cease to impose Israeli curricula on the students of the occupied Syrian Golan, to offer grants to these students and to provide assistance to the educational establishments of the Golan;
10. *Reiterates* all its previous resolutions relating to the occupied Syrian Golan;
11. *Decides* to include this item in the agenda of its 30th session.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission V at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

56 Appeal on rendering assistance to the Republic of Tajikistan¹

The General Conference,

Mindful of the goals and principles of the UNESCO Constitution,

Welcoming the independence of the Republic of Tajikistan, which provides an opportunity to the people of Tajikistan to build a democratic state,

Taking into account the adherence of the Government of Tajikistan to the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as to the achievement of national reconciliation,

Expressing deep concern in connection with the critical situation which Tajikistan is facing in the transitional period as a result of the civil war, natural disasters, the fall in production and the sharp increase in inflation,

Recognizing the necessity of rendering urgent external aid to the Republic of Tajikistan for the improvement of the difficult situation of the country in many spheres of life,

- 1. Appeals to the Member States of UNESCO, international and non-governmental organizations, as well as private institutions to extend assistance for the rebuilding of ruined educational establishments and for training in the fields of education, culture and science;*
- 2. Requests the Director-General to use all possibilities within the framework of the programme and financial resources of UNESCO for 1998-1999 and up to the year 2000 for rendering assistance to the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in its efforts to resolve the problems which the people of Tajikistan are facing in UNESCO's fields of competence and to report to it on the implementation of this resolution at its 30th session.*

57 Activities in support of Bosnia and Herzegovina¹

The General Conference,

Having taken note of the report by the Director-General on the situation of the cultural and architectural heritage, on that of educational and cultural institutions, and on progress in executing the action plan for the rehabilitation of women in Bosnia and Herzegovina (29 C/61),

- 1. Requests the Director-General to continue to implement activities in support of Bosnia and Herzegovina in accordance with 152 EX/Decision 10.4 and to mobilize all available resources to this effect, with particular emphasis on the reconstruction of the education system, the implementation of the plan for the reconstruction of the historic centre of Mostar, including Stari Most (the Old Bridge), the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the National Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the University of Sarajevo, and activities in support of women;*
- 2. Requests the Director-General to help the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the preparation of the files for the proposed inclusion of the historic centres of Mostar and Sarajevo on the World Heritage List;*
- 3. Further requests the Director-General to make available to the Commission to Preserve National Monuments in Bosnia and Herzegovina all necessary means for it to continue its work, which is essential for the future of the cultural heritage of Bosnia and Herzegovina;*
- 4. Requests also the Director-General to report on the implementation of this resolution at the 154th session of the Executive Board and to submit a full report on activities in support of Bosnia and Herzegovina to it at its 30th session.*

58 Plan of action for the rehabilitation of educational, cultural and scientific institutions and the restoration of the cultural and architectural heritage of Albania¹

The General Conference,

Recalling 151 EX/Decision 3.1(III) and 152 EX/Decision 10.3,

- 1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission V at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.*

Having examined document 29 C/54,

Welcoming the measures already taken by the Director-General,

1. *Requests* the Director-General to continue his efforts with a view to elaborating, in consultation with the competent Albanian authorities and with the other international organizations concerned, a comprehensive and integrated plan of action for the rehabilitation of educational, cultural and scientific institutions and the restoration of the cultural and architectural heritage of Albania;
2. *Invites* the Director-General to report to the Executive Board at its 154th session on the progress made and the results achieved in the implementation of this activity.

59 Celebration of anniversaries¹

The General Conference,

Having taken note of 151 EX/Decision 9.5 and 152 EX/Decision 9.9,

Decides:

- (a) that UNESCO shall be associated in 1998-1999 with the following celebrations:
 - (i) centenary of the birth of the Ukrainian poet Volodymyr Sosiura (6 January 1998);
 - (ii) centenary of the birth of the Russian film director Sergei Mikhailovich Eisenstein (22 January 1998);
 - (iii) centenary of the founding of the Russian Museum - Saint Petersburg Museum (17 March 1998);
 - (iv) six hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of the Charles University in the Czech Republic (7 April 1998);
 - (v) centenary of the birth of the Spanish poet Vicente Aleixandre (26 April 1998);
 - (vi) centenary of the birth of the Spanish poet and dramatist Federico García Lorca (5 June 1998);
 - (vii) two hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Czech philosopher and historian František Palacký (14 June 1998);
 - (viii) centenary of the foundation of the Polytechnical Institute of Kiev - Ukraine Technical University (31 August 1998);
 - (ix) centenary of the birth of the Bulgarian writer Dimitar Talev (1 September 1998);
 - (x) centenary of the birth of the Cuban writer Juan Marinello Vidaurreta (2 November 1998);
 - (xi) fiftieth anniversary of the abolition of the army in Costa Rica (1 December 1998);
 - (xii) centenary of the birth of the Slovak poet Jan Smrek (16 December 1998);
 - (xiii) centenary of the birth of the Russian physicist Vladimir A. Fock (22 December 1998);
 - (xiv) two hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Polish poet Adam Mickiewicz (24 December 1998);
 - (xv) hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of the Bulgarian writer Christo Botev (25 December 1998);
 - (xvi) ninetieth anniversary of the birth of the scientist from Tajikistan Bobojon Gafurov (December 1998);
 - (xvii) centenary of the birth of the Belgian painter René Magritte (21 November 1998);
 - (xviii) centenary of the birth of the Belgian dramatist Michel de Ghelderode (3 April 1998);
 - (xix) six hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the Ferapontov Monastery in Russia (1998);
 - (xx) two hundredth anniversary of the death of the Greek poet Constantin Rhigas - known as Pheraios (1998);
 - (xxi) one thousand two hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Uzbek scholar and astronomer Ahmad al-Ferghani (1998);
 - (xxii) one thousand two hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the birth of the scholar Ismail al-Bukhari (1998);
 - (xxiii) centenary of the discovery of radium and polonium by Pierre Curie and Marie Sklodowska-Curie (1998);

1 . Resolution adopted on the report of Commission I at the 23rd plenary meeting, on 10 November 1997.

- (xxiv) three hundredth anniversary of the invention of the pianoforte in Florence by Bartolomeo Cristofori (1998);
- (xxv) eight hundredth anniversary of the death of the philosopher Muhammad ibn Rushd - known as Averroës (1998);
- (xxvi) seventy-fifth anniversary of the birth of the Armenian artist Sergei Paradjanov (9 January 1999);
- (xxvii) centenary of the birth of the Bulgarian painter Detchko Ouzounov (22 February 1999);
- (xxviii) centenary of the birth of the Kazakh scholar K.I. Satpaev (12 April 1999);
- (xxix) two hundredth anniversary of the first research voyage to Latin America of the German naturalist Alexander von Humboldt (5 June 1999);
- (xxx) four hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Spanish painter Diego Velázquez (6 June 1999);
- (xxxi) two hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Russian poet Alexander S. Pushkin (6 June 1999);
- (xxxii) centenary of the death of the Mauritian writer and administrator Sir Auguste Cécilcourt Antelme (6 June 1999);
- (xxxiii) hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of the Russian physiologist Ivan Petrovich Pavlov (27 June 1999);
- (xxxiv) centenary of the birth of the Mauritian writer Michel Arthur Martial (28 September 1999);
- (xxxv) hundred and thirtieth anniversary of the introduction of free, compulsory primary education in Costa Rica (10 November 1999);
- (xxxvi) thousandth anniversary of the popular epic *Alpamysh* (1999);
- (xxxvii) five hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Swiss writer Thomas Platter (1999);
- (xxxviii) two hundredth anniversary of the death of the Turkish poet Şeyh (Sheikh) Galib (1999);
- (xxxix) seven hundredth anniversary of the beginning of the formation of Ottoman cultural and scientific heritage and its multinational aspects (1999);
- (xl) centenary of the foundation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (23 January 1999);
- (xli) centenary of the independence of the Philippines (1998);
- (xlii) one thousand three hundredth anniversary of the epic Azerbaijani legend *Kitab-i Dede Qorqud* (1998);
- (xliii) centenary of the birth of the Spanish writer Rosa Chacel (3 June 1998);
- (xliv) centenary of the birth of the Spanish writer Dámaso Alonso (22 October 1998);
- (xlv) four hundredth anniversary of the Edict of Nantes (1998);
- (xlvi) one thousandth anniversary of the death of the Iranian mathematician and astronomer Abul-Vafa Mohammad-Ebne-Yahya Buzjani (1998);
- (xlvii) one thousand five hundredth anniversary of the creation of the Kazakh city of Turkestan (1998);
- (xlviii) centenary of the Moscow Arts Theatre (1998);
- (xlix) centenary of the Russian Union of 'The World of Arts' (1998);
- (l) one thousand one hundredth anniversary of the Ukrainian city of Halich (1998);
- (li) four hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Flemish painter Antoon Van Dyck (1999);
- (lii) centenary of the birth of the Russian writer, novelist and poet Vladimir Nabokov (10 April 1999);
- (liii) centenary of the birth of the Russian novelist and journalist Andrei Platonov (1 September 1999);
- (liv) centenary of the birth of the Armenian painter and sculptor Ervand Kotchar (1998);
- (lv) one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the death of the Polish composer and pianist Fryderyk Chopin (1999);
- (lvi) three hundredth anniversary of the death of the Iranian scholar Molla Mohammad Bagher Majlesi (1998);
- (lvii) hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of the Swedish dramatist and novelist August Strindberg (22 January 1999);
- (lviii) five hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Kazakh scholar Mirza Muhammad Haidar Dughlat (1998);
- (lix) centenary of the birth of the Ukrainian artist Oleksandr Sayenko (1998);
- (lx) centenary of the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (1998);
- (lxi) centenary of the birth of the Argentine writer Jorge Luis Borges (24 August 1999);

- (lxii) fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the National Ballet of Cuba (1998-1999);
 - (lxiii) hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Albert I of Monaco, scholar prince and humanist (1998);
 - (lxiv) centenary of the birth of the Romanian writer George Calinescu (19 June 1999);
 - (lxv) centenary of the 'Belgica' international scientific expedition in the Antarctic region (1998);
 - (lxvi) three hundredth anniversary of the publication of the original of the first Romanian philosophical essay 'The Divan or the Quarrel of the Wise Man with the World' by Dimitrie Cantemir (1998);
 - (lxvii) two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Vincenc Priessnitz, considered the founder of hydrotherapy (4 October 1999);
 - (lxviii) centenary of the birth of the Georgian scholar Arnold Chikobava (October 1998);
 - (lxix) centenary of the birth of the Guatemalan writer Miguel Angel Asturias (19 October 1999);
- (b) that the association of UNESCO with these celebrations shall be in the fields of its competence, namely education, culture, science and communication;
 - (c) that any contribution by the Organization to these celebrations shall be financed under the Participation Programme, in accordance with the rules governing that Programme;
 - (d) that the list of anniversaries with whose celebration UNESCO will be associated in 1998-1999 is hereby closed.

V Support for Programme Execution¹

60 Development of closer links between UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations and the National Commissions

The General Conference,

Considering the important role played by UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations in increasing the dissemination of UNESCO's ideals in civil society, as well as of its objectives and priority themes,

Bearing in mind the need:

- (a) to strengthen existing relations between the National Commissions and the UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations as being instrumental in promoting the ideals of UNESCO in their respective countries,
- (b) to foster the process of integration with a view to achieving greater co-operation and understanding,

Invites Member States:

- (a) to develop closer links and greater exchanges of information between, on the one hand, the Federations of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations and the National Commissions and, on the other hand, the UNESCO Secretariat, in particular the Division for Relations with National Commissions and UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations;
- (b) to encourage the creation of an *ex officio* seat for the National Federation of UNESCO Clubs on the executive committee or its equivalent of each National Commission, with a view to reciprocal support in the activities undertaken.

61 Interregional co-operation among National Commissions

The General Conference,

Reaffirming the vital role assumed by the National Commissions as the constitutionally recognized focal points of UNESCO's activities in Member States,

Appreciating the continued efforts of the Director-General to involve the National Commissions more and more in the Organization's programme planning, implementation and evaluation by organizing, *inter alia*, consultation meetings of National Commissions on subregional, regional and interregional levels concerning the preparation of the C/4 and C/5 documents,

Recognizing that well-planned programming by National Commissions themselves is a requisite for activating participation in the programme execution of the Organization,

Stressing the need for such consultation meetings to take place in a more frequent but systematic way and, above all, for those recommendations adopted at the different consultation meetings to be adequately reflected in the decision-making process of the Organization focusing on the preparation of the forthcoming C/4 and C/5 documents,

Emphasizing the necessity of a proper mechanism in order to maximize the role of National Commissions in programme planning as well as programme execution,

1. Resolutions adopted on the report of Commission I at the 23rd plenary meeting, on 10 November 1997.

Welcoming the Director-General's efforts to elicit the effective participation of National Commissions in the programme execution of the Organization and in the preparation of document 30 C/5,

1. *Invites* the Director-General to look into the possibility of holding an interregional conference of National Commissions for UNESCO during sessions of the General Conference with a view to reviewing the effective joint functioning of National Commissions at subregional and regional levels, particularly relating to the preparation of the C/4 and C/5 documents;
2. *Further invites* the Director-General, in collaboration with field offices, to encourage and support the networking of National Commissions on a subregional basis, it being understood that such networking will constitute a firm foundation for undertaking various joint projects among Member States in UNESCO's fields of competence.

62 Co-operation with the National Commissions on the execution of the programme

The General Conference,

Considering that, as stated in the Medium-Term Strategy for 1996-2001 (28 C/4 Approved), the National Commissions are the key partners of UNESCO, unique in the United Nations system, and that their role is to co-operate closely with the Organization in preparing, executing, following up and evaluating its activities and programmes in the Member States,

Taking into account the urgent need to make the National Commissions more dynamic and to revitalize and strengthen them institutionally so that they can carry out the mission assigned to them under the Constitution of UNESCO and the Charter of the National Commissions,

Bearing in mind the structural financial limitations that the National Commissions experience, faced with the increasing responsibilities and demands imposed on them by the General Conference,

Taking into account the need for closer interaction among the National Commissions of all regions, as well as between the National Commissions and the UNESCO Secretariat, including field units,

Recognizing the clear need to devise mechanisms for the development of joint strategies to be implemented by the National Commissions and to set up a systematic consultation mechanism between National Commissions and field units concerning topics or actions of a regional nature,

Supporting the creation of a Standing Committee of National Commissions, composed of their Secretaries-General and of members of the Secretariat, to be entrusted with the drawing up and monitoring of strategies to strengthen the role of the National Commissions (29 C/5, para. 13004),

Invites the Director-General:

- (a) to consider new joint working procedures between the Secretariat, the field offices and the National Commissions in order to put into effect the intention to strengthen the management capacity of the National Commissions expressed in document 29 C/5;
- (b) to take the necessary steps to establish, in the light of proposals on its mandate and composition to be made at the National Commissions informal regional meetings during this session of the General Conference and the regional consultation meetings on the preparation of document 30 C/5, the new Standing Committee that will propose as a matter of priority during the biennium an experimental plan for financial and technical support to the National Commissions to promote the development of UNESCO's programme activities.

63 Changes in the classification of international organizations admitted to the various types of relations with UNESCO, and questions related thereto

The General Conference,

Bearing in mind the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations which it adopted at its 28th session,

Having examined the Director-General's report on the changes in the classification of international organizations admitted to the various types of relations with UNESCO, and questions related thereto (29 C/25 and Add.),

Taking note with appreciation of the fact that the consequent reclassification of UNESCO's existing NGO partners has been completed and that new organizations have entered into official relations with UNESCO,

Noting with interest the action taken and proposals made in respect of the various other aspects of this reform, including the collective consultation mechanisms and the question of NGO participation in sessions of the General Conference,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Executive Board and the Director-General for the quality of the work carried out, in compliance with the Directives, and for the flexibility shown in the current transitional period;
2. *Also thanks* non-governmental organizations for their continuing commitment to UNESCO's ideals and their constructive approach to the current reform;
3. *Invites* the Executive Board and the Director-General to continue to implement the reform in a spirit of dialogue and co-operation with NGOs;
4. *Requests* the Executive Board to pursue in depth its consideration of the matter of NGO participation in sessions of the General Conference with a view to ensuring that such participation is commensurate with these organizations' roles, expertise and representativeness, and to report to it thereon at its 30th session.

64 Revision of the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with foundations and similar institutions

The General Conference,

Having examined document 29 C/26 'Revision of the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with foundations and similar institutions',

1. *Takes note* of the fact that official relations with association networks and similar institutions, as provided for by these Directives, are henceforward governed by the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with non-governmental organizations, adopted by the General Conference at its 28th session;
2. *Approves* the proposed amendments to delete Article V and modify Article VI.1 of the Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with foundations and similar institutions, contained in the annex to document 29 C/26.

VI Budget

65 Appropriation Resolution for 1998-1999¹

The General Conference, at its 29th session, resolves that:

A. Regular programme

(a) For the financial period 1998-1999 the sum of \$544,367,250² is appropriated as follows:

<i>Appropriation line</i>	<i>Amount</i> \$
Part I - General Policy and Direction	
<i>I.A Governing bodies</i>	
1. General Conference	7,596,800
2. Executive Board	8,403,000
<i>I.B Direction</i>	
3. Directorate	1,728,200
4. Services of the Directorate (including: Office of the Assistant Director-General for the Directorate; Executive Office of the Director-General; Office of Management Co- ordination and Reforms; Inspectorate General; Office of the Mediator; Office of International Standards and Legal Affairs; Bureau of Studies, Programming and Evaluation; Bureau of the Budget)	19,462,700
<i>I.C Participation in the Joint Machinery of the United Nations System</i>	1,170,700
Total, Part I	38,361,400
Part II - Programme Execution and Services	
<i>II.A Major Programmes, Transdisciplinary Projects and Transverse Activities</i>	
I Education for all throughout life	104,697,150
II The sciences in the service of development	86,745,900
III Cultural development: the heritage and creativity	41,577,000
IV Communication, information and informatics	30,002,100
Transdisciplinary projects and transverse activities	42,406,900
Participation Programme	24,830,000
Subtotal II.A	330,259,050

1. Resolution adopted at the 28th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

2. Parts I to VII are calculated at the constant rates of exchange of 5.70 French francs and 1.45 Swiss francs to one United States dollar.

<i>Appropriation line</i>	<i>Amount</i> \$
<i>II.B Information and Dissemination Services</i>	
1. Clearing house	6,316,700
2. UNESCO Publishing Office	4,971,700
3. UNESCO Courier Office	3,693,100
4. Office of Public Information	9,113,000
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Subtotal II.B	24,094,500
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Total, Part II	354,353,550
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Part III - Support for Programme Execution	55,283,200
Part IV - Management and Administrative Services	47,896,200
Part V - Maintenance and Security	33,863,400
Part VI - Capital Expenditure	1,711,900
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Total, Parts I to VI	531,469,650
Part VII - Anticipated Cost Increases	12,897,600
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TOTAL APPROPRIATION	544,367,250
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Additional appropriations

- (b) The Director-General is authorized to accept and add to the appropriation approved under paragraph (a) above, voluntary contributions, donations, gifts, bequests and subventions, and contributions from governments towards the costs of established field units, taking into account the provisions of Article 7.3 of the Financial Regulations. The Director-General shall provide information thereon to the Members of the Executive Board in writing at the session following such action.

Obligations to be incurred

- (c) Obligations may be incurred during the financial period 1 January 1998 to 31 December 1999 up to the amount appropriated under (a), in accordance with the resolutions of the General Conference and the Financial Regulations of the Organization.

Transfers

- (d) The Director-General is authorized to make transfers, with the approval of the Executive Board, for the purpose of meeting increases in staff costs and in the costs of goods and services, from Part VII of the budget (Anticipated Cost Increases) to the appropriation lines concerned in Parts I to V of the budget.
- (e) Transfers between appropriation lines may be made by the Director-General with the prior approval of the Executive Board.
- (f) In urgent and special circumstances (i.e. unforeseeable and when immediate action is required), however, the Director-General may make transfers between appropriation lines, informing the Members of the Executive Board in writing, at the session following such action, of the details of the transfers and the reasons therefor.
- (g) A clear distinction is to be made and adhered to between allocations mentioned under (e) and (f) above. In the case of transfers exceeding \$50,000, substantive justification should be provided to the Executive Board on the rationale for such transfers and the financial impact on the activities affected. Transfers which affect the implementation of priorities approved by the General Conference must be submitted to the Executive Board for prior approval.

- (h) With the exception in regard to Part VII of the budget, no transfers modifying the overall amounts originally approved for each appropriation line by more than 10 per cent shall be made.
- (i) The budget provisions concerning the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre (WHC) shall not be subject to adjustments by transfers of funds to other Parts of the budget.

Staff

- (j) An amount of \$313,658,650,¹ including IOC and WHC, is provided in the appropriation in paragraph (a) above for established posts at Headquarters and in the field, and shall not be exceeded.
- (k) Posts funded from financial allocations provided by the Organization by decision of the General Conference to the IBE (UNESCO International Bureau of Education - 24 posts), IIEP (UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning - 39 posts) and UIE (UNESCO Institute for Education - 3 posts), are not included in the established posts referred to in paragraph (j) above, in view of the special legal identity of those institutions.

Assessment

- (l) The appropriations voted under paragraph (a) above shall be financed by assessments on Member States after deduction of Miscellaneous Income. It is foreseen that Miscellaneous Income, except for support costs expected to be received from the United Nations Development Programme amounting to \$2,100,000, will be used during 1998-1999 for the positive incentive scheme to encourage prompt payment of contributions. The assessments on Member States will accordingly amount to \$542,267,250.

Currency fluctuation

- (m) The appropriation under paragraph (a) above is expressed at the constant dollar rate of one United States dollar to 5.70 French francs and 1.45 Swiss francs, hence expenditure against this appropriation will also be recorded at the constant dollar rate. In order to account for the differences arising from the translation of expenditure incurred during the course of the financial period in French and Swiss francs at varying operational rates of exchange as compared with the constant dollar rate, a separate currency clearing account will be maintained. The differences between the operational rates of exchange at which Member States' contributions in French francs are brought to account and the rate of exchange of the French franc used to calculate the budget will also be credited or debited to this account. Any balance under the currency clearing account at the end of the biennium will be added to or deducted from Miscellaneous Income.
- (n) Should France participate in the third stage of European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) which has scheduled the option of the euro as the single European currency effective 1 January 1999, the constant dollar rate of one US dollar to 5.70 French francs will be translated into euros, by applying the conversion rate of the French franc to the euro which will be definitively fixed at the end of 1998; the currency clearing account maintained during 1999 shall record:
 - (i) the differences between Member States' contributions brought to account in euros during 1999 at the operational rates of exchange and at the constant rate of exchange of the euro to the dollar;
 - (ii) differences arising from the translation of 1999 expenditure incurred in euros, in substitution for French franc commitments, at varying operational rates of exchange as compared with the constant rate of exchange of the euro to the dollar.

1. Calculated on the basis of 2,188 posts with a lapse factor rate of 3 per cent; not including short-term temporary personnel or consultant services under the regular budget, or posts financed from extrabudgetary sources.

- (o) Any balance under the currency clearing account at the end of the biennium, arising from the differences brought to account in application of the provisions of paragraphs (m) and (n) above, will be added to or deducted from Miscellaneous Income.

B. Extrabudgetary programmes

- (p) The Director-General is authorized to receive funds from governments, international, regional or national organizations and individuals for the implementation of programmes and projects consistent with the aims, policies and activities of the Organization and to incur obligations for such activities in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Organization and the agreements made with funding sources.

VII Financial questions¹

66 Financial report and audited financial statements relating to the accounts of UNESCO for the financial period ended 31 December 1995, and report by the External Auditor

The General Conference,

Having examined document 29 C/31 and Add.,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the opinion of the External Auditor that the financial statements presented fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of UNESCO as at 31 December 1995 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the two-year financial period then ended; that they were prepared in accordance with the stated accounting policies, which were applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding financial period; and that the transactions that came to his notice during the audit have, in all significant respects, been in accordance with the Financial Regulations and relevant legislative authority;
2. *Expresses its thanks* to the External Auditor for the high standard of his work;
3. *Receives and accepts* the report of the External Auditor and the audited financial statements on the accounts of UNESCO for the financial period ended 31 December 1995;
4. *Invites* the Director-General to continue to follow up the recommendations of the External Auditor.

67 Financial report and audited financial statements relating to the United Nations Development Programme as at 31 December 1995, and report by the External Auditor¹

The General Conference,

Noting that the Executive Board has approved on its behalf, as authorized by 28 C/Resolution 23.2, the audited financial statements relating to the United Nations Development Programme as at 31 December 1995,

1. *Receives* this report and these financial statements;
2. *Authorizes* the Executive Board to approve, on its behalf, the report of the External Auditor together with the audited financial statements relating to the United Nations Development Programme as at 31 December 1997.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of the Administrative Commission at the 25th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

68 Financial report and interim financial statements relating to the accounts of UNESCO as at 31 December 1996 for the financial period ending 31 December 1997

The General Conference,

Having examined document 29 C/33 and Add.,

1. *Takes note* that for the first time the unaudited interim financial statements of UNESCO are presented in conformity with new United Nations Accounting Standards;
2. *Further notes* the financial report of the Director-General together with the interim financial statements of UNESCO as at 31 December 1996 for the financial period ending 31 December 1997.

69 Scale of assessments

The General Conference,

Recalling Article IX of the Constitution, which stipulates in paragraph 2 that the General Conference shall approve and give final effect to the budget and to the apportionment of financial responsibility among the States Members of the Organization,

Considering that the scale of assessments for Member States of UNESCO has always been based on that of the United Nations, subject to the adjustments necessitated by the difference in membership between the two organizations,

Resolves that:

- (a) the scale of assessments of Member States of UNESCO for each of the years 1998 and 1999 shall be calculated on the basis of the scale or scales of assessments adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its fifty-second and/or fifty-third session(s); the UNESCO scale or scales shall be established with the same minimum rate and the same maximum rate, all the other rates being adjusted to take into account the difference in membership between the two organizations in order to derive a UNESCO scale of 100 per cent;
- (b) if the United Nations General Assembly approves a scale for 1999 different from that for 1998 the relevant provisions of Articles 5.3 and 5.4 of the Financial Regulations shall not be applied;
- (c) new Members depositing their instruments of ratification after 21 October 1997 and Associate Members shall be assessed in accordance with the formulae set forth in 26 C/Resolution 23.1;
- (d) rates of assessment for Member States shall be rounded off to the same number of decimal places as in the United Nations scale or scales; rates of assessment for Associate Members shall be rounded off to one additional decimal place, as necessary, in order to allow the effective reduction to 60 per cent of the minimum rate of assessment for Member States stipulated in 26 C/Resolution 23.1.

70 Currency of Member States' contributions

The General Conference,

Having examined the report of the Director-General on the currency of contributions of Member States (29 C/34),

Recalling Article 5.6 of the Financial Regulations which stipulates that 'contributions to the budget shall be assessed partly in United States dollars and partly in French francs in a proportion to be determined by the General Conference and shall be paid in these or other currencies as decided by the General Conference',

Conscious of the need to reduce the exposure of the Organization to adverse currency fluctuations during 1998-1999,

1. *Resolves*, in respect of contributions for the years 1998 and 1999, that:

- (a) contributions to the budget shall be assessed on the basis of the approved scale of assessments as follows:
 - (i) in French francs for 1998 and in French francs or euros as appropriate for 1999 - 61 per cent of the budget calculated at the rate of one United States dollar to 5.70 French francs, or the

- equivalent thereof in euros for 1999 notwithstanding the provisions of Financial Regulation 5.6;
- (ii) in United States dollars - the remainder of the amount of contributions to be paid by Member States;
- (b) contributions to be assessed in French francs for 1999 shall be translated into euros, if the euro replaces the French franc for international transactions at that time; contributions assessed in French francs for 1998 remaining unpaid at 31 December 1998 shall be considered as payable in euros thereafter and shall be translated into euros by applying the fixed rate of conversion of the French franc to the euro that will be decided at the end of 1998; during 1999 any contributions assessed or converted into euros may be paid in euros or the equivalent thereof in French francs at the fixed rate of conversion of the French franc to the euro;
 - (c) contributions shall be paid in the two currencies in which they are assessed; nevertheless payment of the amount assessed in one currency may be made, at the choice of the Member State, in the other currency of assessment; unless the amounts assessed are received simultaneously and in full in the currencies in which they are assessed, credit shall be given against contributions due in proportion to the amounts assessed in both currencies, by the application of the United Nations operational rate of exchange between the United States dollar and the French franc, or the United States dollar and the euro for 1999 as appropriate, on the date on which the contribution is credited to a bank account of the Organization;
 - (d) contributions to be assessed in French francs/euros for the financial period that remain unpaid at the time of assessment of contributions for the subsequent financial period shall be considered as due and payable in United States dollars thereafter and for this purpose shall be converted into United States dollars using the French franc rate of exchange, or the euro rate of exchange, as appropriate, that is most beneficial to the Organization, by reference to the following three options:
 - (i) the constant rate of exchange of 5.70 French francs to the dollar or, as appropriate, the equivalent rate of exchange in euro, used to calculate the French franc/euro portion of assessed contributions for the biennium;
 - (ii) the average rate of exchange of the French franc to the dollar during the biennium, or, as appropriate, the average rate of exchange of the euro after translation of the French franc rates of exchange into euros for 1998;
 - (iii) the French franc or, as appropriate, the euro rate of exchange to the dollar for December of the second year of the biennium;
 - (e) arrears of contributions from previous financial periods and arrears converted into annual instalments considered as due and payable in United States dollars, but received in a currency other than the United States dollar, shall be converted into United States dollars at either the most favourable rate which UNESCO can obtain for conversion of the currency in question into United States dollars on the market on the date on which the amount is credited to a bank account of the Organization or at the United Nations operational rate of exchange on the same date, whichever is more beneficial to the Organization;
 - (f) when contributions are received in advance in French francs during 1998 or in euros during 1999 for subsequent financial periods, such advance contributions shall be converted into United States dollars at the operational rate of exchange ruling on the date when payment is credited to a bank account of the Organization; all contributions received in advance shall be held in the name of the contributor in United States dollars, and credit shall be given against contributions due for the subsequent financial period in dollars and French francs or euros as appropriate, in the proportion determined by the General Conference, using the operational rate of exchange prevailing on the date of dispatch of letters of assessment for the first year of the following financial period;

Considering nevertheless that Member States may find it desirable to discharge part of their contributions in the currency of their choice,

2. *Resolves* that:

- (a) the Director-General is authorized, upon request from a Member State, to accept payment in the national currency of the Member State if he considers that there is a foreseeable need for that currency in the remaining months of the calendar year;
- (b) when accepting national currencies the Director-General, in consultation with the Member State concerned, shall determine that part of the contribution which can be accepted in the national currency, taking into account any amounts requested for payment of UNESCO Coupons; the Member State concerned must make a global proposal in that case;

- (c) in order to ensure that contributions paid in national currencies will be usable by the Organization, the Director-General is authorized to fix a time-limit for payment, in consultation with the Member State concerned, after which contributions would become payable in the currencies mentioned in paragraph 1 above;
 - (d) acceptance of currencies other than the United States dollar or the French franc/euro is subject to the following conditions:
 - (i) currencies so accepted must be usable, without further negotiation, within the exchange regulations of the country concerned, for meeting all expenditure incurred by UNESCO within that country;
 - (ii) the rate of exchange to be applied shall be the most favourable rate which UNESCO can obtain for the conversion of the currency in question into United States dollars at the date at which the contribution is credited to a bank account of the Organization; after translation into United States dollars, credit shall be given against contributions for 1998-1999 where appropriate in proportion to the amounts assessed in United States dollars and French francs/euros, in the manner specified in paragraph 1 above;
 - (iii) if, at any time within the 12 months following the payment of a contribution in a currency other than the United States dollar or the French franc/euro, there should occur a reduction in the exchange value or a devaluation of such currency in terms of United States dollars, the Member State concerned may be required, upon notification, to make an adjustment payment to cover the exchange loss pertaining to the unspent balance of the contribution; to the extent that the Director-General considers that there is a foreseeable need for that currency in the remaining months of the calendar year, he is authorized to accept the adjustment payment in the national currency of the Member State;
 - (iv) if, at any time within the 12 months following the payment of a contribution in a currency other than the United States dollar or the French franc/euro, there should occur an increase in the exchange value or a revaluation of such currency in terms of United States dollars, the Member State concerned may require the Director-General, upon notification, to make an adjustment payment to cover the exchange gain pertaining to the unspent balance of the contribution; such adjustment payments will be made in the national currency of the Member State;
3. *Resolves further* that any differences due to variations in the rates of exchange not exceeding \$50 relating to the last payment against contributions due for the biennium in question shall be posted to exchange profit and loss account.

71 Collection of Member States' contributions

The General Conference,

I

Having examined the report by the Director-General on the collection of contributions of Member States (29 C/35 and Add. and Add.2) and *having taken note* of the up-to-date information provided during the debate of the Administrative Commission,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to Member States that have paid their contributions for the financial period 1996-1997 and to those who have speeded up the payment of their contributions in response to appeals;
2. *Notes* that the considerable efforts made by many Member States faced with difficult internal circumstances have not been enough to prevent recourse to costly internal and external borrowing to supplement the resources of the Working Capital Fund for the purpose of financing the approved programme;
3. *Strongly supports* the approaches the Director-General is continuing to make to Member States with a view to obtaining timely payments of contributions;
4. *Recalls again* that the prompt payment of contributions is an obligation incumbent on Member States under the Constitution and the Financial Regulations of the Organization;
5. *Urgently appeals* to those Member States which are behind with the payment of their contributions to pay their arrears without delay and, where appropriate, to respect their payment plans;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to take the necessary steps to ensure that their contributions are paid in full at as early a date as possible during the financial period 1998-1999;
Noting in particular the failure of nine Member States to pay on time the amounts due by them against payment plans approved by the General Conference for settlement of their accumulated arrears in annual instalments,
7. *Appeals* to those Member States to settle their outstanding annual instalments at the earliest possible time as well as their regular assessed contributions;
8. *Urges* Member States, on receipt of the Director-General's request for payment of assessed contributions, to inform him as promptly as possible of the probable date, amount and method of payment of the forthcoming contribution in order to facilitate his management of the Organization's treasury function;
9. *Authorizes* the Director-General to negotiate and contract, as an exceptional measure, short-term loans on the best terms available, when it becomes necessary, to enable the Organization to meet its financial commitments during 1998-1999, and to limit the periods and amounts of external and internal borrowing to the strict minimum, with a view to phasing out external borrowing as soon as possible;

II

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Albania to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in the letter of Albania dated 3 November 1997;
Noting that the Government of Albania has made a payment of \$73,950 in part settlement of arrears for the financial period 1994-1995,
2. *Decides* that the contributions remaining due for the financial period 1994-1995, totalling \$2,098, shall be paid by 31 December 1997;
3. *Calls upon* the Government of Albania to ensure that the arrears of contributions due for 1996-1997 and contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly;
4. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at the forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution;

III

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Azerbaijan to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in the letter of Azerbaijan dated 3 November 1997, after translation of the amount due and payable in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;
2. *Decides* that the contributions remaining due for the financial periods 1992-1993 to 1996-1997, totalling \$3,021,289, shall be paid as follows:
by 31 December 1997, \$100,000,
and before 30 June of each year, the balance in the following six annual instalments:

1998	\$243,860,
1999	\$243,860,
2000	\$533,393,
2001	\$633,392,
2002	\$633,392,
2003	\$633,392;
3. *Further decides* that payments of contributions received from the Government of Azerbaijan during the second year of the following three biennia shall be credited first against annual instalments due, secondly to the Working Capital Fund, and then to the contributions due in the order in which the Member was assessed;
4. *Calls upon* the Government of Azerbaijan to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
5. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution until all instalments have been received;

IV

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Cape Verde to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in the letter of Cape Verde dated 3 November 1997, after translation of the amount due and payable in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;
2. *Decides* that the contributions remaining due for the financial periods 1994-1995 and 1996-1997, totalling \$136,951, shall be paid in three instalments as follows:
by 30 November 1997, \$62,783,
and the balance in two equal annual instalments as follows:
on or before 30 November 1997 \$37,084,
on or before 31 December 1998 \$37,084;
3. *Calls upon* the Government of Cape Verde to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
4. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution until all instalments have been received;

V

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Comoros to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in the letter of Comoros dated 1 November 1997, after translation of the amount due and payable in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;
2. *Decides* that the contributions remaining due for the financial periods 1981-1983 to 1996-1997, including the advance to the Working Capital Fund of \$341, totalling \$446,105, shall be paid as follows:
by 31 December 1997, \$14,376,
from 1998 to 2002, five equal instalments of \$71,955 and, in 2003, \$71,954, on or before 30 June of each year;
3. *Further decides* that payments of contributions received from the Government of Comoros during the second year of the following three biennia shall be credited first against annual instalments due, secondly to the Working Capital Fund, and then to the contributions due in the order in which the Member was assessed;
4. *Calls upon* the Government of Comoros to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
5. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution until all instalments have been received;

VI

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Estonia to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in document 29 C/35, after translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the UNESCO operational rate of exchange for September 1997;
- Noting* that Estonia has made two payments in July 1997, \$171,122 and \$214,590, totalling \$385,712,
2. *Decides* that the contributions due for the financial periods 1992-1993 to 1996-1997, totalling \$788,542, shall be paid in five annual instalments as follows:
in 1998, \$157,710,
from 1999 to 2002, four equal instalments of \$157,708, on or before 30 June of each year;
 3. *Further decides* that payments of contributions received from Estonia during the second year of the following two biennia shall be credited first against annual instalments due, secondly to the Working Capital Fund, and then to the contributions due in the order in which the Member was assessed;
 4. *Calls upon* the Government of Estonia to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;

5. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution, until all five instalments have been received;

VII

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of The Gambia to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in the letter of The Gambia dated 3 November 1997, after translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;
2. *Decides* that the contributions remaining due for the financial periods 1990-1991 to 1996-1997, totalling \$247,216, shall be paid in six annual instalments as follows:
 - by 31 December 1997, \$40,000,
 - from 1998 to 2001, four equal instalments of \$42,000 and, in 2002, \$39,216, on or before 30 June of each year;
3. *Further decides* that payments of contributions received from the Government of The Gambia during the second year of the following two biennia shall be credited first against annual instalments due, secondly to the Working Capital Fund, and then to the contributions due in the order in which the Member was assessed;
4. *Calls upon* the Government of The Gambia to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
5. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution until all six instalments have been received;

VIII

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Georgia to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in the letter of Georgia dated 30 October 1997, after translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;
2. *Decides* that the Government of Georgia shall pay \$50,000, as pledged, by 15 November 1997 and that the contributions remaining due after deduction of this payment for the financial periods 1992-1993 to 1996-1997, totalling \$2,768,689, shall be paid in six annual instalments as follows:
 - in 1998, \$461,449,
 - from 1999 to 2003, five equal instalments of \$461,448, on or before 30 June of each year;
3. *Further decides* that payments of contributions received from the Government of Georgia during the second year of the following three biennia shall be credited first against annual instalments due, secondly to the Working Capital Fund, and then to the contributions due in the order in which the Member was assessed;
4. *Calls upon* the Government of Georgia to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
5. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution until all instalments have been received;

IX

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Grenada to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in document 29 C/35 Add.2, after translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;
- Noting* that the Government of Grenada has made two payments in October 1997, \$14,376 and FF129,444, translated at the exchange rate prevailing on date of receipt (\$1 = FF5.9450), totalling \$36,150,

2. *Decides* that the contributions remaining due for the financial periods 1992-1993 to 1996-1997, totalling \$194,460, shall be paid in four instalments as follows:
 - first quarter 1998 \$38,018,
 - fourth quarter 1998 \$76,034,
 - first quarter 1999 \$63,897,
 - fourth quarter 1999 \$16,511;
3. *Further decides* that payments of contributions received from the Government of Grenada during the second year of the following biennium shall be credited first against annual instalments due, secondly to the Working Capital Fund, and then to the contributions due in the order in which the Member was assessed;
4. *Calls upon* the Government of Grenada to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
5. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution, until all four instalments have been received;

X

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Guinea to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in document 29 C/35 Add.;
- Noting* that Guinea has accepted to pay \$37,155 due for the advance to the Working Capital Fund (\$3) and for the 1996 annual instalment on a payment plan approved at the 28th session of the General Conference,
2. *Decides* that the amount remaining due for the annual instalment for 1997 and the contributions due for the financial period 1996-1997 totalling \$111,320, after translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange, shall be rescheduled and paid in two equal annual instalments as follows:
 - by 30 June 1998, \$55,660,
 - by 30 June 1999, \$55,660;
 3. *Calls upon* the Government of Guinea to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
 4. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at the forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution;

XI

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Equatorial Guinea to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in the letter of Equatorial Guinea dated 31 October 1997;
- Noting* that the Government of Equatorial Guinea has paid \$51,439 in settlement of arrears for the 1995 and 1996 annual instalments on a payments plan approved at the 27th session of the General Conference and in part settlement of contributions due for the financial period 1994-1995,
2. *Decides* that the amount remaining due for the financial period 1994-1995 (\$49,911) shall be paid in total by 31 December 1998;
 3. *Calls upon* the Government of Equatorial Guinea to ensure that the six annual instalments for 1997 to 2002, approved at the 27th session of the General Conference, arrears of contributions due for 1996-1997 and contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
 4. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution, until all instalments have been received;

XII

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Kyrgyzstan to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in the letter of Kyrgyzstan dated 29 October 1997, after translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;

2. *Decides* that the amount remaining due on the payments plan approved at the 28th session and the contributions for the financial period 1996-1997, totalling \$813,382, shall be paid during the first quarter of 1998;
3. *Calls upon* the Government of Kyrgyzstan to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
4. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at the forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution;

XIII

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Latvia to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in document 29 C/35 Add.2, after translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;

Noting that Latvia has made a payment, received on 25 October 1997, of \$155,700, which reduces the contributions due for the financial periods 1992-1993 to 1996-1997 to \$1,954,541 and which also covers the first instalment payable in 1997,

Noting also the proposal that the contributions remaining due be paid in nine annual instalments with a decrease on the last instalment proposed as follows, to be paid before 30 June in each of the following years:

in 1998 \$114,116, in 1999 \$50,000, in 2000 \$60,000, in 2001 \$81,075, in
2002 \$200,000, in 2003 \$300,000, in 2004 \$350,000, in 2005 \$400,000 and in 2006
\$399,300,

2. *Requests* the Director-General to renegotiate the proposed payments plan over a maximum period of six years to conform to the provisions of Rule 79, paragraph 7(c), of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;
3. *Calls upon* the Government of Latvia to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
4. *Further requests* the Director-General to report to it at the forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution;

XIV

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Mauritania to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in the letter of Mauritania dated 3 November 1997, after translation of the amount due and payable in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;

2. *Decides* that the contributions due for the advance to the Working Capital Fund (\$3) and for the financial periods 1994-1995 and 1996-1997, totalling \$147,089, shall be paid in three instalments as follows:

by 31 December 1997, \$72,921,
by 30 April 1998, \$46,295,
by 30 April 1999, \$27,873;

3. *Further decides* that payments of contributions received from the Government of Mauritania during the second year of the following biennium shall be credited first against annual instalments due, secondly to the Working Capital Fund, and then to the contributions due in the order in which the Member was assessed;
4. *Calls upon* the Government of Mauritania to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
5. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution until all instalments have been received;

XV

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Mozambique to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in document 29 C/35 Add.2, after translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;

2. *Decides* that the contributions remaining due for the financial periods 1994-1995 and 1996-1997, totalling \$113,905, shall be paid in six annual instalments as follows:
in 1998, \$18,985,
from 1999 to 2003, five equal instalments of \$18,984, on or before 30 June of each year;
3. *Further decides* that payments of contributions received from the Government of Mozambique during the second year of the following three biennia shall be credited first against annual instalments due, secondly to the Working Capital Fund, and then to the contributions due in the order in which the Member was assessed;
4. *Calls upon* the Government of Mozambique to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
5. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each of its forthcoming ordinary sessions on the implementation of this resolution until all six instalments have been received;

XVI

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Uganda to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in document 29 C/35 Add., after taking into account the payment of US \$10,000 since received, following translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;
2. *Decides* that the contributions remaining due for the financial period 1996-1997, totalling \$74,030, shall be paid in three instalments as follows:
by 30 November 1997, \$30,000,
by 28 February 1998, \$30,000,
by 30 June 1998, \$14,030;
3. *Calls upon* the Government of Uganda to ensure that contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
4. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution until all three instalments have been received;

XVII

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Uzbekistan to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in document 29 C/35 Add., after taking into account the payment of \$175,862 since received, following translation of the amount due in French francs, at the request of the government, into United States dollars at the UNESCO operational rate of exchange for September 1997;
2. *Decides* that the contributions remaining due for the financial period 1996-1997, totalling \$946,761, shall be rescheduled and paid in total by 31 December 1998;
3. *Calls upon* the Government of Uzbekistan to ensure that contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
4. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at the forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution;

XVIII

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of the Dominican Republic to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in document 29 C/35, after translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the UNESCO operational rate of exchange for September 1997;
- Noting* that the Dominican Republic has paid \$350,000 in settlement of arrears from 1979 to 1985,
2. *Decides* that the balance of contributions due for the financial periods 1986-1987 to 1996-1997, totalling \$653,757, shall be paid in six annual instalments as follows:
in 1998, \$108,957,
from 1999 to 2003, five equal instalments of \$108,960, on or before 30 June of each year;
 3. *Further decides* that payments of contributions received from the Dominican Republic during the second year of the following three biennia shall be credited first against annual instalments

due, secondly to the Working Capital Fund, and then to the contributions due in the order in which the Member was assessed;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the Dominican Republic to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
5. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution until all six instalments have been received;

XIX

Having been advised of the desire of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in document 29 C/35 Add.2, after translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;
2. *Decides* that the contributions remaining due for the financial periods 1994-1995 and 1996-1997, including the advances for the Working Capital Fund, totalling \$684,306, shall be paid in six instalments as follows:
 - before 30 November 1997, \$100,000,
 - in 1998, \$116,862,
 - from 1999 to 2002, four equal instalments of \$116,861, on or before 31 December of each year;
3. *Further decides* that payments of contributions received from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea during the second year of the following two biennia shall be credited first against annual instalments due, secondly to the Working Capital Fund, and then to the contributions due in the order in which the Member was assessed;
4. *Calls upon* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
5. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution until all six instalments have been received;

XX

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Sao Tome and Principe to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in the letter of Sao Tome and Principe dated 27 October 1997, after translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;
- Noting* that the Government of Sao Tome and Principe has paid \$9,600 of their payments plan during 1996-1997,
2. *Decides* that the balance of the payments plan approved at the 27th session of the General Conference shall be rescheduled and that the contributions due for the financial periods 1994-1995 and 1996-1997, totalling \$218,909, shall be paid in six annual instalments, before 31 December of each year, as follows:
 - 1998 \$46,099,
 - 1999 \$46,099,
 - 2000 \$31,428,
 - 2001 \$31,428,
 - 2002 \$31,928,
 - 2003 \$31,927;
 3. *Calls upon* the Government of Sao Tome and Principe to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
 4. *Requests* the Director-General to report at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution until all six instalments have been received;

XXI

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Suriname to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in document 29 C/35 Add.2, after taking into account the payment of \$196,515 since received, following translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;

2. *Decides* that the contributions remaining due for the financial period 1996-1997, totalling \$73,381, shall be paid in before 31 December 1997;
3. *Calls upon* the Government of Suriname to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
4. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at the forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution;

XXII

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Chad to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in the letter of Chad dated 30 October 1997, after translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;
2. *Decides* that the balance of the payments plan approved at the 22nd session of the General Conference and the contributions remaining due for the financial periods 1988-1989 to 1996-1997, totalling \$439,662, shall be paid in four instalments as follows:
 - by 30 November 1997, \$ 45,101,
 - by 31 January 1998, \$132,134,
 - by 31 January 1999, \$132,134,
 - by 31 January 2000, \$130,293;
3. *Further decides* that payments of contributions received from the Government of Chad during the second year of the following biennium shall be credited first against annual instalments due, secondly to the Working Capital Fund, and then to the contributions due in the order in which the Member was assessed;
4. *Calls upon* the Government of Chad to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
5. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution until all instalments have been received;

XXIII

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Yemen to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in document 29 C/35 Add.2, after translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;
2. *Decides* that the contributions remaining due for the financial periods 1994-1995 and 1996-1997, totalling \$94,329, shall be paid before 30 June in each of the next two years;
3. *Calls upon* the Government of Yemen to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;
4. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at the forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution;

XXIV

Having been advised of the desire of the Government of Zambia to find a solution for settlement of arrears of contributions due,

1. *Accepts* the proposal set forth in the letter of Zambia received on 31 October 1997, after translation of the amount due in French francs into United States dollars at the approved budget rate of exchange;
- Noting* that the Government of Zambia has made a payment in October 1997 of \$35,281,
2. *Decides* that the contributions remaining due for the financial periods 1994-1995 and 1996-1997, totalling \$114,924, shall be paid before 31 December 1999;
 3. *Further decides* that payments of contributions received from the Government of Zambia during the following biennium shall be credited first against arrears due on the payments plan, secondly to the Working Capital Fund, and then to the contributions due in the order in which the Member was assessed;
 4. *Calls upon* the Government of Zambia to ensure that the contributions assessed for 1998 and subsequent years are paid promptly on a regular basis;

5. *Requests* the Director-General to report to it at each forthcoming ordinary session on the implementation of this resolution until the total amount of arrears has been received.

72 Working Capital Fund: Level and administration

The General Conference resolves:

- (a) that the authorized level of the Working Capital Fund for 1998-1999 shall be fixed at US \$25 million, and that the amounts to be advanced by Member States shall be calculated according to the rates assigned to them under the scale of assessments approved by the General Conference for 1998-1999;
- (b) that a new Member State shall be required to make an advance to the Working Capital Fund, calculated as a percentage of the authorized level of the Fund, in accordance with the percentage assigned to it under the scale of assessments applicable at the time it becomes a Member;
- (c) that the resources of the Fund shall be assessed and paid in United States dollars; these resources shall normally be held in United States dollars, but the Director-General shall have the right, with the agreement of the Executive Board, to alter the currency or currencies in which the Fund is held in such a manner as he deems necessary to ensure the stability of the Fund and the smooth functioning of the split-level assessment system; if such an alteration should be agreed, an appropriate exchange equalization account should be established within the Fund to record translation gains and losses on exchange;
- (d) that the Director-General is authorized to advance from the Working Capital Fund, in accordance with Article 5.1 of the Financial Regulations, such sums as may be necessary to finance budgetary appropriations pending the receipt of contributions; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed as soon as receipts from contributions are available for that purpose;
- (e) that the Director-General is authorized to advance during 1998-1999 sums not exceeding in total \$500,000 at any one time, to finance self-liquidating expenditures, including those arising in connection with trust funds and special accounts; these sums are advanced pending availability of sufficient receipts from trust funds and special accounts, international bodies and other extrabudgetary sources; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed as rapidly as possible.

73 UNESCO Coupons Programme

The General Conference,

Noting with appreciation the assistance Member States have obtained from the UNESCO Coupons Programme in helping overcome foreign exchange problems relating to the purchase of educational, scientific and cultural material they consider necessary for technological developments,

1. *Invites* the Director-General to continue his action, in particular in co-operation with the National Commissions, so as to allow maximum possible benefits for Member States under this programme, while ensuring that the cash resources of the Organization are soundly managed and that the Coupons Programme remains self-financing;

Recalling the provisions made in pursuance of 28 C/Resolution 26,

2. *Authorizes* further allocations in 1998-1999 of UNESCO Coupons payable in local currencies, up to a maximum of \$2,000,000, on condition that the accumulated totals in such currencies shall not exceed their projected utilization over the following 12-month period and bearing in mind that Member States should propose settlement in national currencies of arrears of assessed contributions for previous years before or at the same time as applying for allocations of UNESCO Coupons under this facility;
3. *Resolves* that any losses on exchange arising from the acceptance of national currencies for purchases of UNESCO Coupons under this facility shall be borne by the purchasing Member State.

74 Use of the contribution of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the period 1 July to 31 December 1997¹

The General Conference,

Having considered the recommendations of the Executive Board contained in 152 EX/Decision 8.1, and document 29 C/64 submitted by the Director-General,

1. *Welcomes* the return of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to UNESCO with effect from 1 July 1997, and *takes note* of the fact that the Member State has already paid its assessed contribution for the period 1 July to 31 December 1997;

Mindful of the wish of Member States to maximize UNESCO's effectiveness and impact, taking into account the priority fields of action of the Organization,

2. *Invites* the Director-General to establish a Special Account for the aforementioned United Kingdom contribution for the purpose of financing projects within UNESCO priority programmes in favour of developing countries and especially the least developed countries (LDCs), along the lines of paragraph 6 of document 29 C/64, and in accordance with the Special Financial Regulations annexed to that document;

3. *Further invites* the Director-General:

(a) to present the project proposals with corresponding detailed cost estimates for approval by the Executive Board;

(b) to report regularly on the status of implementation of these projects to the Executive Board;

4. *Resolves* that the relevant provisions of Article 5.2 of the Financial Regulations shall be suspended to this effect.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of the Administrative Commission at the 8th plenary meeting, on 24 October 1997.

VIII Staff questions¹

75 **Staff Regulations and Staff Rules**

*The General Conference,
Having examined document 29 C/38,
Takes note of the information it contains.*

76 **Staff salaries, allowances and benefits**

The General Conference,

I

*Having examined the report of the Director-General on staff salaries, allowances and benefits (29 C/39 and Add.),
Takes note of the contents of the said document;*

II

Considering the possibility that the International Civil Service Commission may recommend to the General Assembly of the United Nations measures affecting salaries, allowances and other benefits of the staff of organizations participating in the United Nations common system of salaries, allowances and other conditions of service,

Mindful also of the possibility that the International Civil Service Commission may, on its own initiative and in pursuance of the authority conferred on it by Article 11 of its Statute, adopt or decide on similar measures,

- 1. Authorizes the Director-General to apply to UNESCO staff any such measures as may be adopted either by the General Assembly of the United Nations or, by the powers vested in it, by the International Civil Service Commission;*
- 2. Invites the Director-General to report to the Executive Board on all such measures, and in the event of his experiencing budgetary difficulties in implementing them, to submit to the Board for approval one or more possible solutions for dealing with this kind of situation.*

1. Resolutions adopted on the report of the Administrative Commission at the 25th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

77 Implementation of personnel policy

The General Conference

1. *Takes note* of the report by the Director-General on the implementation of personnel policy (29 C/40 and Add. and Corr.) and the achievements made in this respect;
2. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Director-General to constantly improve management of the Secretariat's workforce and to foster a sense of responsibility within the Organization regarding the sound management of staff;
3. *Also recognizes* the importance of staff experience in regional or field offices for vitalizing UNESCO;
4. *Invites* the Director-General:
 - (a) to pursue his efforts to provide leadership conducive to the success of the Organization and to increase the number of junior professional posts (P-1 to P-3);
 - (b) to optimize resources while providing the staff with challenging career opportunities;
 - (c) to submit a progress report on this subject to the Executive Board at its 157th session and to the General Conference at its 30th session;
 - (d) to ensure that the staff mobility policy does not result in field offices remaining without programme specialists;
5. *Requests* the Director-General to consider personnel policy measures which would enable the experience acquired by young staff in field offices to be taken into consideration with a view to the enhancement of their career prospects;
6. *Invites* the Director-General to implement strategies to make efficient use of personnel for 1998-1999 so as to ensure optimal use of available resources and achieve more effective programme execution, including measures to reduce the top-heavy structure of the Secretariat;
7. *Further invites* the Director-General to implement fully and adhere to all aspects of the Organization's personnel policy and not to exceed the total staff cost budget.

78 Geographical distribution of staff

The General Conference,

Recalling 28 C/Resolution 29.2, 145 EX/Decision 7.6, 150 EX/Decision 6.7 and 152 EX/Decision 8.5,

Having considered document 29 C/41,

Noting that in spite of all the Secretariat's efforts so far there is still no significant improvement in the geographical distribution in the Secretariat,

1. *Invites* the Director-General to continue to apply most rigorously the principles set out in document 29 C/41 with a view to improving the geographical distribution of the staff, keeping in mind Article VI.4 of the Constitution;
2. *Calls* on Member States which are under-represented or unrepresented to present suitable candidates for vacancies advertised;
3. *Invites* the Director-General to address the low ratio of applications from unrepresented and under-represented Member States by applying a proactive strategy to assist relevant Member States in identifying appropriate candidates;
4. *Also invites* the Director-General to submit a report on the situation concerning the geographical distribution of the staff to the Executive Board at its 155th session and to submit that report to the General Conference at its 30th session with a view to a re-examination of the question of quotas.

79 Extension of the period of jurisdiction of the Administrative Tribunal

The General Conference,

Having taken note of the explanations and comments of the Director-General contained in document 29 C/42 and its annex concerning the procedures of the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organization, in particular those relating to the review of judgements,

1. *Decides* to call, as a matter of urgency, upon the International Labour Conference to explore, in consultation with the organizations of the United Nations common system concerned, the measures to be taken in order to improve the functioning of the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organization;
2. *Further decides* to renew UNESCO's recognition of the jurisdiction of the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organization in respect of cases arising under Staff Regulation 11.2 during the period from 1 January 1998 to 31 December 1999.

80 UNESCO Staff Pension Committee: election of Member States' representatives for 1998-1999

The General Conference,

Having examined document 29 C/44,

Appoints the representatives of the following six Member States to the UNESCO Staff Pension Committee for the years 1998-1999:

As members

Czech Republic
Indonesia
Jordan

As alternates

Finland
Malawi
Panama

81 State of the Medical Benefits Fund and appointment of Member States' representatives to the Board of Management for 1998-1999

The General Conference,

Having considered the report of the Director-General on the state of the Medical Benefits Fund (29 C/45),

Noting that UNESCO's health insurance scheme is well managed and the least costly to Member States among the major organizations of the United Nations system,

Recognizing that adequate health care is an indispensable element of social protection for the serving and retired staff members of the Organization and consequently that the level of reimbursement of health care costs to participants and associate participants of the Medical Benefits Fund should be maintained,

1. *Requests* the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board at its 157th session and to the General Conference at its 30th session a further report on the state of the Medical Benefits Fund;
2. *Designates* the following two Member States to act as observers on the Board of Management of the Fund for the 1998-1999 biennium:

Germany

Lao People's Democratic Republic

IX Headquarters questions¹

82 Mandate and report of the Headquarters Committee

The General Conference,

I

Having examined document 29 C/46 (Mandate and report of the Headquarters Committee),
Expressing its satisfaction with the work carried out in close collaboration by the Headquarters Committee and the UNESCO Secretariat,

Noting the detailed information contained in the above-mentioned document,

1. *Decides* to renew the mandate of the Headquarters Committee, composed of 25 members, until the end of the 30th session of the General Conference; the geographical distribution of the seats shall reflect that of the Executive Board; the Committee shall elect a bureau consisting of a chairperson, two vice-chairpersons, a rapporteur and two members, with a view to having each geographical group represented;
2. *Decides also* that the Committee shall meet whenever necessary, at the request of the Director-General or on the initiative of its Chairperson, to advise the Director-General on all questions relating to the Organization's Headquarters submitted by the Director-General or by a member of the Committee, and to provide the Director-General with advice, suggestions, guidance and recommendations in this connection, and, together with the Director-General, shall report to the General Conference on the work carried out and the programme to be planned for the future;
3. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Headquarters Committee and to Ms Mendieta de Badaroux, who chaired the Headquarters Committee between the 28th and 29th sessions of the General Conference;

II

4. *Requests* the Director-General to report in a timely manner to the Executive Board for its consideration and decision all Headquarters Committee recommendations having significant financial repercussions, prior to their submission to the General Conference;
5. *Further requests* the Director-General, in co-operation with the Headquarters Committee, to update and apply existing criteria and to make arrangements to meet, to the extent possible, Member States' requests concerning the rental of offices in Building V;
6. *Strongly urges* the Member States concerned to discharge their obligations by paying their rent and related expenses at the appropriate time;
7. *Requests* the Director-General, in co-operation with the Headquarters Committee, to submit to the Executive Board at its 155th session a report on this matter, together with the various possible solutions to the problem of recovering arrears.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of the Administrative Commission at the 25th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

83 Upkeep and renovation of Headquarters buildings: implementation of the Renovation Plan

The General Conference,

Having considered document 29 C/47 concerning the report by the Director-General on the implementation of the Renovation Plan for Headquarters buildings,

Having noted that in the proposals made by the Director-General pursuant to paragraph 6 of 28 C/Resolution 34, concerning the financing of essential and urgent conservation and renovation work to be carried out in 1998-1999, the remaining work, although urgent, is to be deferred to subsequent biennia,

Having noted the work to be carried out in 1998-1999 at a cost of \$3.7 million, to be financed from Part V of the Budget - Maintenance and Security, from Part VI - Capital Expenditure and from the Headquarters Utilization Fund,

1. *Welcomes* the results achieved under the fund-raising campaign, thanks to the efforts made by the Chairperson of the Headquarters Committee, together with the members of that Committee, to obtain funds from Member States, the private sector and the host country authorities, which have resulted, among other things, in the establishment of a UNESCO/Paris City Hall working group with a view to involving the City of Paris in the renovation of the exterior of UNESCO Headquarters;
2. *Expresses its gratitude* to Member States, public and private organizations and individuals for their contributions to the financing of the renovation work on Headquarters buildings on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO;
3. *Notes with concern* the change that has occurred in the plan relating to safety work, which does not take account of 151 EX/Decision 5.1, II, paragraph 91, and which provides for the postponement to later biennia of work that is considered equally urgent, costing, at this stage, an estimated total of US \$6.5 million;
4. *Invites* the Director-General to investigate all possible ways of raising further funds for upkeep, conservation and renovation on the condition that that should not affect Part II of the Programme and Budget, and to report to the Executive Board at its subsequent sessions on the results of these investigations.

X Constitutional and legal questions¹

84 **Amendment to Article V, paragraph 4(a), of the Constitution**

The General Conference,

Having considered document 29 C/51 and *taken note* of the report of the Legal Committee (29 C/76 and Add. and Corr.),

1. *Decides* to add to the end of the first sentence of subparagraph (a) of paragraph 4 of Article V of the Constitution the following phrase:
‘except for the election that takes place during the 30th session of the General Conference, where one of the elected Member States from Electoral Group II and two of the elected Member States from Group IV, whose names shall be drawn by the President of the General Conference by lot, shall serve until the close of the 31st session of the Conference’;
2. *Decides* further that this amendment shall be expunged from the text of the UNESCO Constitution at the close of the 30th session of the General Conference.

85 **Study concerning the problems and possible solutions regarding the Conciliation and Good Offices Commission to be responsible for seeking the settlement of any disputes which may arise between States Parties to the Convention against Discrimination in Education**

The General Conference,

Having observed that no dispute has ever been laid before the Conciliation and Good Offices Commission instituted by the Protocol of 10 December 1962 to the Convention of 14 December 1960 against Discrimination in Education,

Desirous that this procedure might genuinely contribute to the protection of human rights,

Invites the Director-General:

- (a) to call a meeting of the Contracting States to the Protocol of 10 December 1962 during the 30th session of the General Conference in order to seek appropriate means of revitalizing and developing this procedure;
- (b) not to include the report of the Conciliation and Good Offices Commission in the documents of the General Conference until such time as it contains information relating to substantive activities on the part of the Commission.

1. Resolutions adopted on the report of the Legal Committee at the 25th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

XI Methods of work of the Organization

86 **Methods of preparing the budget and budget estimates for 1998-1999 and budgeting techniques¹**

The General Conference

1. *Notes* that, in preparing the Draft Programme and Budget and the Technical Annex to document 29 C/5 for 1998-1999, the Director-General complied with the budgeting techniques recommended by the Executive Board (150 EX/Decision 5.1, para. 76(a));
2. *Invites* the Director-General to continue to apply the same budgeting techniques in the preparation of document 30 C/5, subject to any modification or improvements that may be recommended by the Executive Board or the Director-General at a future session of the Board.

87 **Structure and function of the General Conference²**

The General Conference,

Recalling 28 C/Resolution 37.2 by which it requested the President of the 28th session of the General Conference, in consultation with the Director-General and with the Chairperson of the Executive Board, to 'establish an ad hoc working group whose mandate would be to examine the structure and function of the General Conference and recommend the most effective means to restore to the Conference its original function as a full-fledged policy-making body', and *reaffirming* 28 C/Resolution 13.1,

Having considered document 29 C/27 and Add. 1, 2 and 3 containing the report of the working group and the Executive Board's comments,

Taking note of the reports of Commission I (29 C/80 and Add. and Corr.) and the Legal Committee (29 C/71),

1. *Endorses* the recommendations of the working group, as amended:

1. The working group recommends that wide-ranging consultations on the preparation of the work of the General Conference be held prior to sessions. In particular, regional and/or subregional meetings of National Commissions should be organized in the first year of each biennium, as was done for the preparation of the Medium-Term Strategy for 1996-2001. These meetings should be held within a reasonable time limit and focus on the overall preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget.
2. The group, stressing the importance of maintaining the written consultation of Member States on the preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget, recommends that sufficient time be allowed for Member States to send their replies.
3. The group recommends that the permanent delegates be associated more closely in the preparation of the decisions of the General Conference. With regard to the preparation of the

1. Resolution adopted on the report of the Administrative Commission at the 25th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.
2. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission I at the 23rd plenary meeting, on 10 November 1997.

Draft Programme and Budget, the consultation of these various groups should be organized before the session of the Executive Board during which the Board examines the draft with a view to making recommendations to the General Conference. These consultations might focus primarily on the major priorities established within the budget.

4. The General Conference should invite the steering committees of intergovernmental bodies to submit observations and recommendations to it, in the fields covered by each one of them, on the Draft Programme and Budget.
5. In connection with decentralization policies, field units should be more closely associated with the preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget, in particular by gathering and updating, together with the National Commissions, relevant information on the needs and aspirations of the states they serve and by taking part in all regional and/or subregional consultation meetings on the preparation of the C/5 document.
6. The General Conference should request the Executive Board to consider on its behalf questions of less importance which are usually placed on the agenda of the Conference, including minor administrative and budgetary questions. The reports that it would submit to the General Conference on these matters should be adopted without discussion, unless a delegation requests a debate on one of them.
7. When it adopts the Programme and Budget, the General Conference should have at its disposal relevant information obtained from the evaluation of the previous Programme and Budget, that is to say, more up-to-date and more precise data than that contained in the Report of the Director-General (C/3 document). More up to date: the Secretariat should strive to provide the General Conference with information on the first 18 months of the current biennium. More precise: that information should not only be descriptive but should also contain some assessment of activities undertaken and their results.
8. The document containing the Draft Programme and Budget (C/5) should be concise, transparent, functional and exhaustive. It should propose to the General Conference genuine strategic directions, stressing the main objectives to be attained under the Medium-Term Strategy, and the priorities proposed in each major programme, specifying the main lines of action that correspond to those priorities and the budgetary resources that it is envisaged to allocate to them. Options should be submitted to the General Conference for selection. The document should also describe the main channels of the co-operation expected to take place between UNESCO and other institutions, including, in particular, extrabudgetary funding sources. This document should be adopted in its entirety by the General Conference.
9. The group recommends that paragraphs 39, 40 and 41 of this report concerning the structure and presentation of the C/5 document be implemented:
 - '39. The new C/5 would consist of two distinct parts.¹ The first - and most important - would include the main lines of action proposed for the different major programmes, programmes and fields of action,² and the appropriation resolution, which would include the corresponding subdivisions. Each chapter would also include a short resolution summarizing the main orientations of the chapter and indicating the funds allocated for their implementation. The amount of each budget line would indicate the relative importance and degree of priority attached to each chapter or subchapter. If possible and appropriate, regional distribution might also be shown. The identification of these overall amounts would point up the different action priorities of the Organization and stimulate genuine discussion of the budget, seen not just as an overall sum of money whose rate of growth is the subject of sensitive decisions but also as a key opportunity for the General Conference to make substantive decisions within that budget.
 40. This first part would be completed by several annexes reproduced in the second part of the new C/5 document:
 - a first appendix would add to each of the above-mentioned budget lines indications on the extrabudgetary resources expected over the biennium and the main orientations for their use, in relation to the Programme and Budget;
 - a second appendix would indicate for each of the budget lines anticipated statutory costs, staff costs, recurrent expenditure and new expenditure;
 - an additional table would compare the different budget items with those in the previous budget.

1. Published in the same volume, or separately.

2. Such as secondary or higher education or intergovernmental programmes.

41. The second part would also include, as an indication and not for decision, technical details relating to programme execution (main modes of action, units responsible for implementing activities, main items of expenditure, etc.). This part would essentially be there for information purposes (which the current C/5 document is also supposed to fulfil, together with other functions which are in reality difficult to combine in a comprehensible fashion in a single document); it would make available to General Conference delegates, National Commissions and so on, detailed information in which they might be legitimately interested, independently of decisions to be taken by the General Conference.’
10. It is for the Director-General to determine the measures whereby the objectives set by the General Conference are to be achieved. For that purpose he must have some flexibility to respond to unexpected circumstances and to make the adjustments called for, at the same time keeping the Executive Board at each of its sessions informed in detail about the activities that have been undertaken or that are being continued. The measures referred to in this recommendation should be in conformity with the programme adopted by the General Conference.
 11. Considering the scope of new paragraph 3 of Rule 78A of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, amended in accordance with 28 C/Resolution 37.1 (para. 1), the group invites the Director-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that the Member States are aware of the criteria contained in the new paragraph, applicable as from the 29th session, for the admissibility of draft resolutions concerning the Draft Programme and Budget.
 12. Rather than adopt rules limiting the number of draft resolutions that can be submitted by a Member State, and in addition to the positive results expected from the newly designed Programme and Budget, the group recommends that an appeal should be made to delegations to limit the number of draft resolutions out of their own sense of self-discipline and responsibility.
 13. Rather than imposing a minimum financial requirement for admissibility of draft resolutions having budgetary implications, only draft resolutions proposing regional, subregional or interregional activities should be considered admissible.
 14. The preliminary screening for admissibility of draft resolutions relating to the Draft Programme and Budget should be done by the Director-General. The request of any Member State for a reconsideration of the assessment made by the Director-General in the matter should be addressed to the General Conference, which may instruct the Legal Committee or any other body to look into that request.
 15. In view of the new rules concerning admissibility, the group recommends that the time limits for submission of draft resolutions be reviewed and that a precise timetable for the examination of their admissibility be established.
 16. To simplify the format of draft resolutions and to help Member States submit them in a consistent manner, the group recommends that Member States be provided by the Secretariat with an appropriate form. The proposed form should not restrict Member States’ freedom to propose amendments, but should rather help them to express their wishes in accordance with the rules in force.¹
 17. The programme of work of the 28th session should be maintained: general policy debate first, to be followed by the programme commissions.
 18. During the general policy debate, the heads of delegation may *inter alia* wish to focus on the basic thrust and orientation of the programme submitted to the General Conference for adoption.
 19. The group recommends that the President of the General Conference be invited to inform the chairpersons of the programme commissions immediately of concrete proposals emanating from the general policy debate.
 20. The group recommends that the President of the General Conference take part in the preparations for the following session in an advisory capacity.
 21. The group recommends that increased attention be given to the experience and qualifications of the candidates proposed as President of the General Conference and chairpersons of commissions and committees, in addition to the geographical criteria normally adopted.
 22. In order to give the chairpersons of the commissions more time for the preparation of their work, the group recommends that candidates for those offices no longer be proposed by the Executive Board at the session immediately preceding the General Conference but, instead, at the one before that, immediately after the Board has taken its decision on the organization of the work of the General Conference.
 23. To enable the commissions to have genuine discussions and to bring significant influence to bear on developments in the Organization’s programmes, the group recommends: (i) that they devote

1. The footnote to the form in Annex II of document 29 C/27 should be deleted.

less time to formalities for adopting the proposed programme at a given session and to examining draft resolutions; (ii) that they focus the major part of their work on the main lines of emphasis of the ensuing programme.

24. While the official proceedings of the General Conference are under way, the group recommends that seminars and round tables be organized on specific themes linked to the Organization's activities for delegates who may wish to participate in them.
25. Similarly, but with the aim of fostering dialogue and exchanges, joint commission meetings should be organized.
26. The group recommends that Member States' delegations to the General Conference give greater prominence to representatives of the communities interested in the problems of education, science, culture and communication. The composition of delegations to the General Conference is the responsibility of each Member State.
27. The group recommends that all the questions to be examined by each commission be covered in a single document (apart from the C/4, C/5 and C/3 documents), which would indicate clearly the main items requiring decisions.
28. In Conference documents, the Secretariat should be encouraged to use natural language which is clear and direct.
29. The group recommends that the President of a session be involved in the preparation of the decisions for the subsequent session, especially as regards documents.
30. The group recommends that the Secretariat be more rigorous in keeping deadlines for dispatching documents and that increasing recourse be made to the electronic transmission of documents.
31. The group recommends that significant improvements be made to information for delegates: both basic information and daily updates on the progress of the proceedings, particularly by improving the Journal and by designating, on an experimental basis, a Vice-President to be responsible for informing the delegates.
32. The group recommends that the General Conference attend to the ways of improving time management described in paragraph 66 of the report. In particular, it recommends that the General Conference delegate to the Executive Board certain issues relating to administrative and financial matters.
33. The group recommends that the voting system tested at the 28th session for the election of Members of the Executive Board be retained and that the results of the elections be made available at the earliest opportunity.
34. The group recommends that procedural improvements be made in elections:
 - to harmonize voting procedures;
 - to devise separate ballot papers for groups V(a) and V(b);
 - to clarify the method for calculating the majority required;
 - to adopt in plenary, without convening each of the various commissions separately, the proposals of the Nominations Committee with regard to the chairing of those commissions; and
 - to reconsider the possibility of an electronic voting system.

2. *Decides* to adopt the new rules, contained in Annexes A and B to the present resolution, which shall supersede all previous provisions on the same subject-matter in the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;
3. *Decides* to include the Headquarters Committee in Section VII of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;
4. *Invites* the Director-General to prepare a final version of the new Rules of Procedure of the General Conference incorporating all the amendments adopted so far with such consequential modifications and updated numbering as may be necessary, and to propose such additional modifications as he may deem appropriate in order to submit them for consideration to the 30th session of the General Conference.

Annex A¹ Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference recommended by the ad hoc working group (29 C/27 Add.1) and by the Executive Board (29 C/27 Add.3) which were endorsed by the Legal Committee

- (i) The title of **Rule 1: 'Frequency and opening date'**.
- (ii) **Rule 2** as amended by the Executive Board on the '**Place of meeting**':
'On the proposal of the Executive Board, the General Conference, during its ordinary session, shall fix the **venue** [rather than the "**seat**" as in the text currently in force] of the next session'.
- (iii) **Rule 4** as amended by the Executive Board on change of venue of the General Conference:
'**Change of venue**' [rather than '**seat**'] [the change in the text of this rule does not affect the English version].
- (iv) Paragraph 3 of **Rule 27** on the ordinary session of the General Conference.
- (v) **Rule 29** on the '**Temporary President**'.
- (vi) **Rule 41** on the '**General Committee of the Conference**', in paragraph 2 as amended by the Executive Board:
'The Chairman of the Executive Board or, in his absence, a **Vice-Chairman** [rather than "**the Acting Chairman**" as in the text currently in force] shall participate in meetings of the General Committee, but without the right to vote'.
- (vii) The title of **Rule 48: 'Right to speak of other members'** rather than '**Right to speak**' as in the text currently in force.
- (viii) **Rule 49** on '**Election of officers**'.
- (ix) **Rule 60** on '**Circulation and safe keeping of records and sound recordings**'.
- (x) **Rule 63** on publicity of records of private meetings held during a session of the General Conference, in paragraph 2.
- (xi) **Rule 78** on the '**Right of reply**'.
- (xii) **Rule 81** on '**Adjournment of debate**'.
- (xiii) **Rule 82** on '**Moving the closure**'.
- (xiv) **Rule 83** on '**Order of procedural motions**'.
- (xv) **Rule 84** on '**General provisions concerning draft resolutions and amendments**'.
- (xvi) **Rule 88** on '**Voting rights**':
1. Each Member State whose credentials have been found to comply with Rule 24, or which has exceptionally been admitted with full voting rights by the Conference despite failure to comply with that rule, shall have one vote in the General Conference or in any of its committees, commissions and other subsidiary organs.
 2. Such Member State, however, shall have no vote in the General Conference or in any of its committees, commissions and other subsidiary organs if the total amount of contributions due from it exceeds the total amount of the contributions payable by it for the current year and the immediately preceding calendar year, unless the General Conference is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member State.
3. Before each ordinary session of the General Conference the Director-General shall, using the most reliable and rapid channels, notify Member States in danger of losing voting rights in accordance with the provisions of Article IV.C, paragraph 8(b), of the Constitution concerning their financial position with respect to the Organization and the provisions of the Constitution and rules relating thereto, at least six months before the General Conference session is due to open.
 4. Member States shall address their communications invoking the provisions of Article IV.C, paragraph 8(c), to the Director-General, who shall transmit them to the Administrative Commission of the General Conference. That Commission shall take up the matter at the commencement of its work and issue in plenary meeting, as a matter of priority, a report and recommendations on the subject.
 5. The communications from Member States referred to in paragraph 4 shall be submitted no later than three days after the commencement of the proceedings of the General Conference. In the absence of such a communication from the Member States concerned, the latter may no longer be authorized to take part in voting at that session of the General Conference.
 6. **Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this rule**, after the time limit specified in paragraph 5 above has passed, and pending a decision by the General Conference in plenary meeting, only those Member States concerned that have submitted the communication referred to in paragraph 4 shall have the right to vote.
 7. In its report to the General Conference, the Administrative Commission shall:
 - (a) describe the conditions that render non-payment beyond the Member State's control;
 - (b) give information on the Member State's history of payment of its contributions in preceding years and on request(s) for voting rights under Article IV.C, paragraph 8(c), of the Constitution;

1. The rules referred to in Annexes A and B follow the numbering in document 29 C/27 Add.1.

- (c) state the measures taken in order to settle the arrears - normally a payment plan for settlement of such arrears in annual instalments over a period of three biennia - and make mention of the undertaking by the Member State to do all it can to settle future annual assessed contributions on a regular basis.
8. Any decision to permit a Member State in arrears in the payment of its contributions to vote shall be made conditional upon that Member State's observance of the recommendations for settlement of the arrears made by the General Conference.
9. After the General Conference has approved the payment plan under which the arrears of a Member State are consolidated and payable in accordance with paragraph 7(c), any decision by the Conference permitting that Member State to vote shall be valid as long as the Member concerned pays its annual instalments by the scheduled dates.
10. The provisions of Articles 5.5 and 5.7 of the Financial Regulations shall not apply to payments made under the payment plans referred to in paragraphs 7(c) and 9 above.
11. One Member State may not represent or vote for another.
- (xvii) **Rule 94** on 'Conduct during voting'.
- (xviii) **Rule 95** on 'Explanation of vote'.
- (xix) **Rule 96** on 'Order of voting on proposals'.
- (xx) **Rule 101** on 'Results of elections'.

Annex B Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference recommended by the ad hoc working group concerning which the Legal Committee felt it should recommend changes

- (i) **Rule 3** on 'Invitation by Member States':
- '1. Any Member State may invite the General Conference to hold a session in its territory. **The Executive Board and the General Conference** (instead of simply "the General Conference" in the text currently in force) shall be informed by the Director-General of all such invitations.
2. In determining the **venue** (instead of "seat" in the text currently in force) of the next session, the Executive Board and the General Conference shall consider only those invitations that have been communicated to the Director-General at least six weeks in advance of the opening date of the current session accompanied by detailed statements concerning local facilities'.
- (ii) **Rule 22** on the designation of his or her alternates by the head of a delegation: to be deleted, since the composition of a delegation is determined by each Member State.
- (iii) **Rule 23** on 'Representation of Member States on commissions, committees and other subsidiary organs':
- 'The head of a delegation may designate any delegate, alternate **delegate**, adviser or expert in his delegation **to represent his delegation** in a committee, commission or other subsidiary organ of the General Conference (instead of "The head of a delegation may designate any delegate, alternate, adviser or expert in his delegation **to act as a member of a committee ...**" in the text currently in force). Unless otherwise specified in these rules, the principal representative of a delegation on any committee, commission or other subsidiary organ of the Conference may be accompanied by such other members of his delegation as he may require to assist him; however, the committee, commission or other subsidiary organ concerned may adopt special restrictions if the nature of the business or physical conditions require them'.
- (iv) **Rule 26** on 'Provisional admission to a session':
- '**Any delegate, alternate delegate, observer or representative** to whose admission a Member State or Associate Member has made objection shall be seated provisionally with the same rights as other **delegates, alternate delegates, observers or representatives** until the Credentials Committee has reported and the General Conference has given its decision' instead of: '**Any delegate, representative or observer ...** with the same rights as other **delegates, representatives or observers ...**'.
- (v) **Rule 30** on 'Elections':
- paragraph 1: the last sentence is transferred to Rule 31, becoming a new paragraph 3 thereof;
- in paragraph 2: replace '**thirty-two**' by '**thirty-six**' as recommended by the Executive Board to reflect the practice followed since the 23rd session of the General Conference (1985).
- (vi) **Rule 31** on 'General powers of the President': a third paragraph is added to this rule, namely the sentence transferred from paragraph 1 of Rule 30:
- '**The President of the General Conference shall sit ex officio in an advisory capacity on the Executive Board**'.
- (vii) **Rule 32** on the 'Acting President': in paragraph 1, delete the phrase '**each in turn in alphabetical order of the list in French of Member States**'.
- (viii) **Rule 39** on the functions of the Legal Committee: a new subparagraph (c) has been added, the previous subparagraph (c) becoming (d):
- '1. The Committee shall consider:

- (a) Proposals for the amendment of the Constitution and of the present rules;
- (b) Agenda items referred to it by the General Conference;
- (c) **Appeals submitted by sponsors of draft resolutions to the General Conference that have been considered inadmissible by the Director-General under Rule 86;**
- (d) Legal questions submitted to it by the General Conference or any of its organs.' (this used to be paragraph (c)).
- (ix) **Rule 42** on 'Substitute members' of the General Committee of the General Conference:
- paragraph 1: delete.
- paragraph 2: should read as follows:
'The Chairman of a committee or a commission, in his absence, shall be represented **in the General Committee of the General Conference** (addition to the existing text) by a Vice-Chairman of the committee or commission, or in the absence of a Vice-Chairman, by the Rapporteur'.
- (x) **Section IX:** should be entitled 'Duties of the Director-General and of the Secretariat' instead of 'Director-General and Secretariat' **Rules 51 and 52** are merged and the paragraphs therefore renumbered.
- (xi) **Rule 56** on the 'Use of working languages': the first sentence should read as follows:
'All documents **except the Journal** of the General Conference shall be issued in the working languages'.
Rules 54 to 58 should be reordered as follows: **54, 58, 56, 55 and 57**.
- (xii) **Rule 65** on the right to speak of Member States and Associate Members: to be deleted.
- (xiii) **Rules 66 to 72** on the right to speak of other bodies: insert after **Rule 73**.
- (xiv) **Rule 73** on the quorum: paragraph 1 should read as follows:
'**The President may declare a plenary meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one third of the representatives of Member States participating in the General Conference are present. The presence of a majority of these Members shall be required for the purpose of taking decisions**'.
- (xv) **Rules 74 and 75** on speeches: these two rules to be merged, to read as follows:
1. The President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their wish to speak.
2. No one may address the General Conference without being called upon by the President.
3. The President may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.
4. The Chairman or the Rapporteur of a committee, commission or other subsidiary organ may be accorded precedence for the purpose of submitting or upholding the report of the committee, commission, or subsidiary organ'.
- (xvi) **Rule 85** on provisions concerning the admissibility of draft resolutions and amendments to the Draft Programme and Budget: this rule should read as follows:
1. Draft resolutions proposing the adoption by the General Conference of amendments to the Draft Programme and Budget must relate to those parts of the Draft Programme and Budget which require decisions of the General Conference, **including** (instead of "in particular to") the proposed resolutions determining the policies and the main lines of work of the Organization and the **draft** appropriation resolution.
2. Draft resolutions covered by paragraph 1 of this rule shall be submitted in writing and shall reach the Director-General at least **45** days before the opening of the session of the General Conference; the Director-General shall communicate them, with such notes as he may deem appropriate, to Member States and Associate Members at least **20** days before the opening of the session.
3. Draft resolutions which do not satisfy the requirements laid down in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this rule **and** (instead of "including") those proposing activities which are purely national in scope or **could be** (instead of "are susceptible of being") financed under the Participation Programme, shall not be admissible'.
- (xvii) **Rule 86** on the examination of admissibility of draft resolutions, which should read as follows:
'The Director-General shall examine draft resolutions **to determine** admissibility and the draft resolutions he considers inadmissible shall not be translated or distributed. The sponsors of these draft resolutions can submit an appeal to the **General Conference through its** Legal Committee. **To consider these appeals the Legal Committee may be convened as soon as necessary**'.
- (xviii) **Rules 84 to 87** are grouped under a **Section XV** entitled: 'Draft resolutions and amendments'. **Rule 84** is entitled 'General provisions' and **Rule 85** 'Admissibility criteria'.
- (xix) **Rule 92** on the 'Vote': this rule could read as follows:
'The normal method by which decisions of the General Conference are adopted shall be by a vote. Except as otherwise provided for in these rules, voting shall be by show of hands. The President may, **if satisfied that there is a consensus** (instead of "after having taken the sense of the meeting") on a proposal or motion, propose the adoption of a decision without a vote. However, a proposal or motion before the General Conference for decision shall be voted upon if a Member State so requests'.
- (xx) **Rule 99** on the 'Secret ballot': in paragraph 1, insert 'vote for the' before the word 'appointment'.
- (xxi) **Rule 100** on 'Procedures': as in Rule 99, insert 'vote for the' before the word 'appointment'.
- (xxii) **Appendix 1** on 'Procedure for the conduct of elections by secret ballot'

- **Rule 4:** replace ‘by inserting the plus sign (+) in the box appearing opposite the name of each candidate, in this way: [+]’ by ‘by inserting a cross sign (x) in the box appearing opposite the name of each candidate, in this way: [x]’.
 - **Rule 16:** delete the word ‘Immediately’ so that the rule reads as follows:
‘After the declaration of the results of the ballot, the ballot papers shall be destroyed in the presence of the tellers’.
- (xxiii) **Appendix 2** concerning the ‘**Procedure for the election of Members of the Executive Board**’
- The heading of Part **II** should read: ‘**Provisions** (instead of “**Special provisions**”) governing the procedure for the election of Member States to the Executive Board’.
 - **Rule 9** should read as follows:
‘The ballot paper to elect Member States for each electoral group shall be of a different colour from the others and bear the names of all the Member States that are candidates for

election in that electoral group. The voters shall indicate the candidates for which they wish to vote “by inserting a cross sign (x) in the box appearing opposite the name of each candidate, in this way: [x]” (instead of “by inserting the plus sign (+) in the box appearing opposite the name of each candidate in this way: [+]”). This sign will be considered as an affirmative vote in favour of the candidate so indicated. The ballot paper shall carry no other notation or sign than those required for the purpose of indicating the vote’.

- **Rule 19** should read as follows:
‘The counting of the votes for each electoral group shall take place separately. The tellers shall open the envelopes, one by one, and shall sort the ballot papers into electoral groups. The votes cast for the candidate Member States shall be entered on the lists prepared for that purpose’.

88 Working methods of the Executive Board¹

The General Conference,

Appreciating the results of the ad hoc working group on the structure and function of the General Conference (29 C/27 and Add.1),

Believing that the reform is an ongoing process which must encompass all the organs mentioned in Article III of the Constitution, namely the General Conference, the Executive Board and the Secretariat,

Mindful of the Executive Board’s responsibility to fulfil its mandate according to Article V.B of the Constitution,

1. *Recommends* that the Executive Board continue and expand the process of reform of its working methods, following the appropriate procedures, and make full use of the knowledge of experts from Member States non-Members of the Executive Board. The reform process should aim at making it possible for the Executive Board to fulfil its mandate effectively and efficiently;
2. *Invites* the Chairperson of the Executive Board to report to it at its 30th session.

89 Implementation of decentralization¹

The General Conference,

Having examined documents 152 EX/23 and 29 C/63,

1. *Deems* it necessary to adopt a comprehensive framework of standard-setting guidelines for the rational implementation of decentralization;
2. *Gives mandate* to the Executive Board to take all necessary actions for the preparation of these standard-setting guidelines;
3. *Invites* the Director-General to prepare a draft text of these guidelines taking into due consideration the suggestions contained in document 29 C/63 for the examination and consideration of the Board at its 155th session;
4. *Further invites* the Executive Board to submit for the approval of the General Conference, at its 30th session, the text of these guidelines after their examination and consideration.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of Commission I at the 23rd plenary meeting, on 10 November 1997.

90 Implementation of the Information Resources Development Plan¹

The General Conference,

Recalling 26 C/Resolution 33, 27 C/Resolution 38 and 28 C/Resolution 36,

Having examined document 29 C/29,

Reaffirming the need to increase individual and collective productivity and provide information services both within the Organization and to Member States,

1. *Notes with concern* that not all information systems developed by UNESCO are being used in practice;
2. *Approves* the financing of US \$2.4 million proposed by the Director-General for the implementation during the 1998-1999 biennium of the Information Resources Development Plan;
3. *Requests* the Director-General to give a higher priority within the Information Resources Development Plan to assistance to National Commissions, and to report to the Executive Board at its 154th session on the steps he will take to this end;
4. *Invites* the Director-General to report to it at its 30th session on the progress made and the results achieved in the Plan.

91 Definition of regions with a view to the implementation of regional activities

At its 23rd plenary meeting, on 10 November 1997, the General Conference noted, on the recommendation of Commission I, the inclusion of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the Europe region and of the Republic of Nauru and of Macao (Associate Member) in the Asia and the Pacific region, with a view to the execution of regional activities.

92 Conditions under which the right to vote may be granted to the Member States referred to in Article IV.C, paragraph 8(c), of the Constitution²

The General Conference,

Recalling the changes it made at its 28th session to Rule 79 of its Rules of Procedure with regard to the conditions under which the right to vote may be granted on an exceptional basis to the Member States referred to in Article IV.C, paragraph 8(c), of the Constitution,

Reaffirming that the purpose of these changes was to induce Member States to fulfil promptly the financial obligations to UNESCO that they contracted by agreeing to become Members of the Organization, and thus to ensure that the Organization has at its disposal the funds needed to meet the expectations of its Members,

Concerned by the difficulties encountered at its 29th session in implementing Rule 79 of its Rules of Procedure,

1. *Invites* the President of the 29th session of the General Conference to submit to it at its 30th session proposals responding to the concerns expressed in this resolution and, to this end, to seek the advice of a small group of six members of recognized competence to be designated by him in a personal capacity, which may hold whatever consultations are deemed useful;
2. *Invites* the President of the General Conference to present his proposals to the Executive Board before submitting them for examination to it at its 30th session together with the observations of the Board;
3. *Invites* the Director-General to provide the President of the General Conference with the necessary support for the implementation of this resolution.

1. Resolution adopted on the report of the Administrative Commission at the 25th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.
2. Resolution adopted at the 25th plenary meeting, on 11 November 1997.

XII 30th session of the General Conference

93 Venue of the 30th session of the General Conference¹

The General Conference,

Having regard to the provisions of Rules 2 and 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference,

Considering that, on the date fixed by Rule 3, no Member State had invited the General Conference to hold its 30th session on its territory,

Decides to hold its 30th session at the Headquarters of the Organization in Paris.

1. Resolution adopted at the 27th plenary meeting, on 12 November 1997.

Annex: List of officers elected at the 29th session of the General Conference

The following are the elected officers of the 29th session of the General Conference:

President of the General Conference

Mr Eduardo Portella (Brazil).

Vice-Presidents of the General Conference

The heads of delegations of the following Member States: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, France, Gabon, Ghana, Guyana, Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lithuania, Morocco, Nepal, Paraguay, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Yemen.

Commission I

Chairperson: Mr Ahmad Jalali (Iran, Islamic Republic of).

Vice-Chairpersons: Mr Nikola Kovac (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Mr Peter Canisius (Germany), Mr Hisham Nashabé (Lebanon), Mr Newstead Zimba (Zambia).

Rapporteur: Mr Hamdy El Nahas (Arab Republic of Egypt).

Commission II

Chairperson: Mr Andrzej Janowski (Poland).

Vice-Chairpersons: Mr Harald Gardos (Austria), Ms Minerva Vincent (Dominican Republic), Mr Safdar Mahmood (Pakistan), Mr Abdel Aziz Al Ansari (Qatar).

Rapporteur: Mr Gilbert Nandiguinn (Central African Republic).

Commission III

Chairperson: Mr Muhamad Hamdan (Jordan).

Vice-Chairpersons: Mr Ervin Balasz (Hungary), Ms Sadhana Relia (India), Mr P.W.M. de Meijer (Netherlands), Mr Ceferino Sánchez (Panama).
Rapporteur: Mr Georges Tohmé (Lebanon).

Commission IV

Chairperson: Mr Félix Fernández-Shaw (Spain).

Vice-Chairpersons: Ms Hoda Wasfy (Egypt), Mr Ioan Onisei (Romania), Mr R.A. Ariyawansa Ranaweera (Sri Lanka), Mr Cosme Adébayo d'Almeida (Togo).

Rapporteur: Mr Philippe Cantraine (Belgium).

Commission V

Chairperson: Mr Carlos N. Malpica Faustor (Peru).

Vice-Chairpersons: Mr Tufail K. Haider (Bangladesh), Mr Roumen Valtchev (Bulgaria), Mr Abdoul-Amir Ali Al-Anbari (Iraq), Mr Daver Darendé (Turkey).

Rapporteur: Mr Christopher J. Chetsanga (Zimbabwe).

Administrative Commission

Chairperson: Mr Baba Akhib Haïdara (Mali).

Vice-Chairpersons: Ms Fauzia Boumaïza (Algeria), Mr Finn Ovesen (Denmark), Mr Russell Marshall (New Zealand), Ms María Teresa de Laterza (Paraguay).

Rapporteur: Mr Vladimir Kovalenko (Russian Federation).

Legal Committee

Chairperson: Ms Estelle Appiah (Ghana).

Vice-Chairperson: Mr Ariel González (Argentina).

Rapporteur: Mr Wolfgang Reuther (Germany).

Nominations Committee

Chairperson: Mr Ömer Lütem (Turkey).

Vice-Chairpersons: Mr Alexander Istomin (Belarus), Ms Sybil Campbell (Jamaica), Mr Peter Baki

(Papua New Guinea), Ms Nabila Chaalan (Syrian Arab Republic).

Rapporteur: Mr Ousmane Blondin Diop (Senegal).

Credentials Committee

Chairperson: Mr Ahmad Hussein (Malaysia).

Headquarters Committee

Chairperson: Ms Sonia Mendieta de Badaroux (Honduras).

Vice-Chairpersons: Mr Emmanuel Olusegun Akinluyi (Nigeria), Mr Jesús Ezquerra Calvo (Spain).

Rapporteur: Mr Khwaja Shahid Hosain (Pakistan).

Records of the General Conference

Twenty-ninth session

Paris, 21 October-12 November 1997

Volume 1

Resolutions

CORRIGENDUM

Resolution 26

Page 56 Replace paragraph 3 of the resolution by the following paragraph:

3. *Also invites* the Director-General, in co-operation with the organizers of the Forum and ensuring full compliance with the 1928 Convention regarding International Exhibitions, to prepare a draft framework agreement on the modalities of UNESCO's association with the Forum, together with a plan of action, for submission to the Executive Board at one of its forthcoming sessions;

Resolution 36

Page 63 Replace paragraph 2(d) of the resolution by the following paragraph:

(d) prepare a draft recommendation on the promotion and use of multi-lingualism and universal access to cyberspace to be submitted to the 30th session of the General Conference.